

Hafa Adai!

PSS stakeholders march to press for funding. **PAGE 2**

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Saipan Tribune

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 196

THURSDAY OCTOBER 3, 2019

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OUTER COVE MARINA CLOSURE

Search for win-win continues

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

With the decision of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to shutter the commercial use of the Outer Cove Marina starting last Sept. 30, members of the Saipan Marine Sports & Tourism Association worry about the fate of their businesses and the closure's effect on the tourism industry.



DLNR cited safety reasons for shutting down the Outer Cove Marina to commercial use and has offered the use of a transient floating dock in the adjacent Smiling Cove
See SEARCH on Page 4

Barricades block the entrance to the Outer Cove Marina. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources has shut down the commercial use of the Outer Cove Marina for safety reasons beginning Sept. 30.

IVA MAURIN

'CLIMB HIGHER'

More than 200 employees of CNMI government agencies recently participated in Northern Marianas College's Climb Higher Seminar, which provides information about workforce training programs, degree programs, financial aid, and other professional development opportunities. The event was organized through a collaboration with the Civil Service Commission-Office of Personnel Management.

NMC

Man wanted in NJ since 2016 is arrested on Saipan

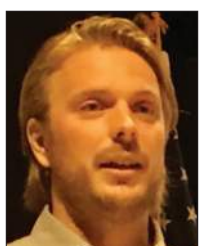
» **Hafner threatened to kill former prosecutor, wife**

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man who has been wanted in New Jersey since 2016 for allegedly threatening to kill a former prosecutor and his wife, and threatening to blow up the law office of the

See MAN on Page 4

CNMI wetlands: \$10.4M economic value each year



Schep

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

The total economic value of the CNMI's wetlands is approximately \$10.4 million per year, according to a Netherlands-based consulting firm that did a study to put a number on how wetlands benefit the

See CNMI on Page 4

HANMI fine with 14-day stay for Chinese tourists

» **Says new regs no effect as majority of Chinese tourists stay only 3-5 days**

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Saying it has no effect on hotels, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands is fine with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's

new regulation that pared down from 45 days to just 14 days the period that Chinese tourists can visit the Commonwealth under parole authority.

Typically, a regular Chinese tourist stays any-



Cavanagh

where from just three to five days in the CNMI, according to HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh yesterday.

In contrast,

See HANMI on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Vivian Sablan is this year's Bridge of Light awardee.

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BUSINESS

The Best Car Wash in Gualo Rai wants to be known as the best car wash on Saipan.

PAGE 14



LIFE & STYLE

Ukraine's leader, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, has now set his sights on Tom Cruise.

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Local

PSS stakeholders march to press for funding

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

Concerned educators and community members held a peaceful demonstration and march from the Oleai pavilions to the Minachom Atdao last Tuesday, followed shortly by a townhall meeting with elected leaders and education officials to press for funding issues related to public education.

The march was organized by CNMI-Ed, a group of concerned educators. According to CNMI-Ed representative Alex Borja, CNMI-Ed has 146 members, mostly PSS employees.

He said the group's members have a lot of shared concerns, particularly about the Public School System being underfunded, and are trying to get informed on the issues and stay focused on solutions.

He said the group hopes that the peaceful march will not be the only one as CNMI-Ed strives to let the public know about the issues that PSS is undergoing.

The townhall meeting was later attended by Board of Education members MaryLou Ada and Andrew Orsini, Education Commissioner Glenn Muña, BOE teacher representative Paul Miura, BOE private school representative

Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Vilagomez (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Sheila Babauta (Ind-Saipan) who each talked about the concerns raised by participants. Rep. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan) and Rep. Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan) were also in attendance, but were not part of the panel.

Concerns about the fis-

cal year 2020 budget and the repair of schools were discussed, with Muña saying that PSS has received the final funding needed to close off fiscal year 2019.

In fiscal year 2020, PSS will be receiving \$37.7 million, which Muña said is short of the bare minimum needed to run PSS. That means it will be difficult for the BOE to lift the current austerity measures at PSS.

The bare minimum needed to run PSS for one school year is \$42 million, Muña said.

He said that, with the current budget, \$33 million will be used up for salaries, \$1 million is required for matching with

federal grants and programs, and the remaining funds will go to operations and other expenses such as utilities.

When asked about further salary cuts to be implemented in fiscal year 2020, Muña said that it will be the decision of the BOE as he wants to avoid any commitments regarding these concerns as he will not be education commissioner for long. Muña's last day in office will be on Nov. 12.

Propst said that the House minority bloc had discussed with other members of the Legislature to find ways to provide PSS the bare minimum to operate, but have been unable to reach an agreement.

Torres applauds Chamber for PWS

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

The latest prevailing wage survey for the CNMI took center stage during yesterday's Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting at Kanoa Resort's Seaside Hall, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres describing it as "the largest and fastest prevailing wage survey in CNMI government's history."

As the meeting's main speakers, Torres said that, with this feat, economic growth has driven wages higher than any other time on record.

He credits his administration's successful collaboration with the Chamber to come up with the prevailing wage survey.

"Despite the hardships that have fallen on us, this last year has been one of unprecedented partnership between the public and private sectors," he told Chamber members.

Torres said that the economy would have crashed and

the tourism industry harmed had the CW-1 program been phased out.

The Torres administration, in partnership with the Chamber and members of the private sector, were able to get an extension of the CW-1 application period for fiscal year 2020, in recognition of the delays that have occurred in the first year of the NMI U.S. Workforce Act's implementation.

"We have continued the necessary discussion about further amending the NMI U.S. Workforce Act to recognize the realities on the ground and craft sensible policy that will allow us to grow our U.S. eligible workforce, along with our economy," Torres said.

Last year, Torres was informed that the federal government wanted to end the access to tourists from the People's Republic of China. In response, the Torres administration convened its second 902 consultation.

See **TORRES** on Page 4

Senate confirms 3 to CPA

The Senate unanimously confirmed all three long-time Commonwealth Ports Authority board member gubernatorial re-nominations in a session last Sept. 26 on Capital Hill.

The Senate voted 9-0 to accept the nominations of CPA board chair Kimberly King-Hinds and CPA board members Roman Tudela Sr. and Pete S. Reyes.

All three are long-time CPA board members.

King-Hinds assured the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations the day before that CPA will not only be deliberate and transparent in making decisions but will also work to realize the fullest potential of the agency and the CNMI.

"CPA is perhaps one of the

most critical infrastructures for our economy. It is the first and last impression of our home. It is the main artery and lifeline to our economy and I can promise you this—this board has been very deliberative in terms of where we are at and where we should go," she told the senators.

"Throughout these past year[s], as we have worked on updating all three master plans on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, we've been in dialogue with the governor about the state of CPA, the state of our finances, the state of our economy, and how...we go about not only fulfilling our statutory mission but maximizing our potential as the authority, recognizing opportunities, and strengthening our weaknesses." (*Erwin Encinares*)

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Torres vetoes 'redundant' reporting requirements

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

The \$233.22-million fiscal year 2020 budget that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres enacted last Sept. 26 had a total of 13 vetoes, including a whole section that imposes redundancy in financial reporting for certain government agencies.

In his notice about the vetoes last Sept. 26, 2019, Torres pointed out that reporting clauses are already embedded in existing laws to ensure transparency and accountability in the use of public funds and that additional reporting requirements should be proposed in a separate legislation.

He did describe these reporting requirements as both redundant and "unfairly burdensome" to other government agencies.

The governor vetoed Section 203 of Rep. Ivan A. Blanco's (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-64, HD2, SD1, which would require the Department of Finance to submit monthly financial reports to the Legislature—instead of the quarterly standard.

"My administration fully recognizes that the need for transparency and accountability is critical for the monitoring of our government's fiscal health. Nevertheless, this monthly report requirement inefficiently imposes unnecessary burdens onto the secretary of [the Finance Department] and [it's] staff," Torres stated in a note on the veto. "If the Legislature deems that a change in the frequency of reporting is necessary, I recom-

mend that the respective body amend the Planning and Budgeting Act to effectuate these changes. For the time being, these reporting requirements should be kept in line with the Planning and Budgeting Act."

While this section was included as a Senate amendment introduced by Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) during a previous session discussing the bill, Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous interview that the reporting requirement was necessary to give legislative officers more immediate access to up-to-date fiscal information instead of having to wait until the end of the fiscal year.

"While we understand this is an additional burden on the Department of Finance and [Office of Budget and Management], we felt timely financial information gives legislators a clearer and timely financial information to make well informed decisions," he previously told *Saipan Tribune*.

'Redundant and unfairly burdensome'

Torres also vetoed Section 712, a new quarterly reporting requirement that would have affected the Judiciary, Legislature, Executive Branch; the Saipan, Northern Islands, Tinian & Aguiguan, and Rota Mayor's Offices and municipal councils; the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library; the CNMI Museum; the Ayuda Network; Karidat Social Services; Domestic Violence Task Force; the Office of the Attorney General; the Department of Public Lands; and the Commonwealth Health Care

Corp., calling it both "redundant and unfairly burdensome."

"...Reporting requirements that serve that same purpose already exist," he said.

Section 712 in HB 21-64, HD2, SD1 would mandate expenditure authorities of these agencies to submit to the Legislature a quarterly fund status report pertaining to personnel and operations expenditures of each entity, including payments to the Office of the Pub-



Torres

lic Auditor.

Torres noted that these reports were redundant with the Citizen Centric Report mandate, which requires leaders of Commonwealth agencies, departments, commissions, public corporations, mayor's offices, municipal councils, autonomous agencies and semi-autonomous agencies to submit financial data to the presiding officers of the Legislature.

According to Section 712,

failure to submit an expenditure report to the presiding officers of the Legislature will result in a suspension of future allocations until the delayed report has been submitted. Torres noted that this is too excessive and "unnecessarily punitive."

"I find this disciplinary measure to be excessive and unnecessarily punitive in nature. More importantly, if enforced, this requirement will bear negative and irreparable consequences for essential departments and agencies," he added.

Section 712 also required the CHCC chief executive

officer to submit a feasibility report on the Universal Health Insurance Model for the Commonwealth by entering into a contract with a vendor to conduct the feasibility study.

"Performing this task will require CHCC to incur an obligation, of which funding was not included for in this appropriation," the governor added.

"...If the Legislature deems that a change in the frequency or amount of reporting is necessary, I advise that the body amend the Planning and Budgeting Act to carry out these changes," Torres reiterated.



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MAN

From Page 1

same lawyer, was arrested by federal agents on Saipan last Saturday.

Federal agents served Eric Hafner with the arrest warrant issued by the U.S. District Court District of New Jersey on Oct. 6, 2016. No details were indicated in court papers about the circumstances of Hafner's arrest on the island.

The arrest warrant was issued pursuant to a criminal complaint filed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation charging Hafner with transmission of threatening communications in interstate and foreign commerce.

According to court records, which were initially sealed,

the FBI found out that Hafner issued the threats on Sept. 1, 2016, using Skype, an online communication application, in a call he made from Ireland.

Hafner was brought to the U.S. District Court for the NMI Monday for his initial appearance. David Banes served as his court-appointed counsel. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe appeared for the U.S. government.

At the hearing, Hafner confirmed his identity and reserved his right to a detention hearing in the District of New Jersey.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted his request to have the preliminary and detention hearings held in New Jersey and approved the U.S. government's petition to have Hafner transferred to

New Jersey.

Hafner remains in the custody of the U.S. Marshals.

FBI special agent Silvana Sotillo stated in the complaint that the victim in this case was an assistant prosecutor at a New Jersey county prosecutor's office from 2007 to April 2012. Between that time, he prosecuted a matter in which Hafner was a juvenile defendant. Sotillo said the case was resolved when Hafner pleaded guilty.

After leaving the prosecutor's office, the victim entered private practice, joining a New Jersey law firm. On July 31, 2012, Hafner allegedly called the law firm and left a message for the victim to return his call. The victim initially reached Hafner's voicemail and left a message indicating

that he was attempting to return Hafner's call.

Three minutes later, Hafner called the law office and asked to speak with the victim. The victim took the call and recorded his conversation with Hafner.

Sotillo said Hafner accused the victim of engaging in misconduct in handling his juvenile offense, alleging that he continues to suffer mental and emotional harm from it.

The lawyer informed Hafner that he was no longer a prosecutor and could not assist him.

The victim heard nothing further from Hafner for over three years.

Sotillo said that on Dec. 30, 2015, the victim received a postcard through the U.S. mail at the law firm.

The postcard accused the victim of engaging in a conspiracy to violate Hafner's civil rights and warned, "Justice is coming to your doorstep."

On March 10, 2016, the victim received a letter through the U.S. mail at the law office, in which the sender warned the victim, "[The Prosecutor's Office] can't help you..."

On April 22, 2016, the victim received another postcard at the law office via U.S. mail, calling him "scum" and stating profanity at the prosecutor's office.

Sotillo said flight records indicate that on July 31, 2016 into Aug. 1, 2016, Hafner flew aboard a commercial flight from Tokyo, Japan to Dublin, Ireland.

Sotillo said a further review of flight records revealed no indication that Hafner has boarded any other international flight since arriving

in Ireland.

On Sept. 1, 2016, an incoming call to the law firm's main number from a telephone number was routed to a firm employee.

Sotillo said the male caller identified himself as "Stephen Calhoun" and instructed the employee to tell the victim that there was a kerosene bomb in the victim's basement.

The employee placed the caller on hold and informed the victim of the call and the threat.

Sotillo said the victim picked up the call, and recorded the ensuing conversation.

The victim recognized the voice in the male caller as that of Hafner.

Hafner allegedly made numerous threats such as he is going to get the victim and his wife, that he is outside his house right now, that he's going to die, among other threats.

SEARCH

From Page 1

Marina as an alternative. The use of the transient dock will be regulated to accommodate commercial use.

In a letter by the Marine Sports Association, the group said they fully understand that funds are needed to rehabilitate Outer Cove but the government should pursue a fairer and more appropriate step.

"This matter is not simple and not easy to those who depend on the [Outer Cove]. This is very serious, and people worry about business continuity," the letter stated.

The group accused DLNR of "not recogniz[ing] the seriousness [of the matter]."

The letter also talked about the barricade at the entrance of the Outer Cove Marina, saying they do not understand why it was done, since the Outer Cove is not only for tourists, but is also used by local people for fishing, and even by big buses needing to make a U-turn.

In a previous *Saipan Tribune* story, DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente clarified that the department cannot prevent the public from using the Outer Cove Marina if they want to do so, and that what

DLNR would be doing is to prevent any tourist commercial activities in the area.

\$3 tourist loading fee

In a meeting with the boat operators last Tuesday by the Division of Fish and Wildlife at their office, DFW director Manny M. Pangelinan discussed the collection of a \$3 loading fee per passenger for users of the transient loading dock.

"We have to stop the use of the Outer [Cove] Marina for people to use because it is unsafe," Pangelinan said, adding that the Smiling Cove Marina is one of the docks that fill up for the need for a docking area.

"However, the [the Smiling] Cove Marina needs to also have its own funding source. There is no money for the maintenance of that dock. The government does not have that money. How do we get the money? We get it from the user to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of this dock."

There is a 10-day grace period for the collection of the \$3 per passenger fee. Come Oct. 11, operators who would not pay won't be able to load on the transient dock.

The transient dock will be used by commercial boaters

that load commercial passengers like those going to Managaha Island, involved in scuba diving, trolling, or other type of marine activities.

The loading scheme would have the boat operators providing a wristband for each passenger, as a way to monitor the number of passengers being loaded using the dock.

The Marine Sports Association, in their letter, expressed concern over how the scheme will be operated consistently.

"To do that, the boat owner or manager [needs to] go to the Treasury office, pay for the wrist band (in advance), bring the receipt to the Fish and Wildlife office, get the wrist band, and then put [the wrist band on] their customer's wrist when [getting] on the boat," the letter stated.

The group also raised concerns that price-sensitive tour agencies and tourists would prefer to use other docks, which would lead to a decrease in their clientele, which would lead to "serious financial difficulties and eventual bankruptcy" that could lead to the firing many employees.

As the most affected in the closure of the Outer Cove Marina, the Marine Sports Association recommends that, instead of the fees, an environ-

mental tax could be collected per tourist at the exit of the airport parking lot or an adjustment to the environmental taxes on the Managaha Island should be made.

In their letter, the group also said that they "don't know what is going to happen in the future, but we hope everyone finds a way [for] a win-win [situation]."

Pangelinan said that the \$3 rate/passenger for docking will be monitored for a month, and will then be assessed for possible adjustments.

"Right now, we have a rate for docking for a month. Users of the dock will be charged a minimum of \$3 per passenger. But we are going to evaluate all these things to see whether we can make adjustments, because this is the first time that we're going to be doing this," Pangelinan clarified.

Pangelinan also said that with the fee, the boat operators are going to start taking ownership of the marina.

"When they have a part on the stake, then they become stakeholders of the marina, and that's another good thing," he said. "Every one of us needs to look at it and make adjustment so that it benefits both the program and the commercial boaters who are using the facility."

morning, followed by a public presentation at American Memorial Park in the evening.

The purpose of the study was to try to quantify some of the economic benefits of wetland areas based on their ability to provide potable water, prevent sediment and nutrient runoff, prevent flood damage to infrastructure, and a variety of other benefits.

Schep noted that the biggest take away from the study is that any economic valuation that can be made about the CNMI's wetlands "will significantly underestimate" their benefits to recreation, aesthetics, and wildlife, "all of which are extremely difficult to quantify in economic terms."

He noted it is really up to the

people of the CNMI to decide how valuable these aspects of wetlands are to them in order to drive any policy decisions.

Many of these estimates are based on the cost of replacement (i.e., the cost of building a desalination plant to provide the same freshwater source that a wetland can supply to a drinking water aquifer).

Wetlands are defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season.

There are two types of wetlands: coastal/tidal wet-

lands and inland/non-tidal wetlands. Wetlands are usually indicated by the presence of water for some part of the year, water-loving vegetation, and soils characteristic of wetlands.

The CNMI's wetlands, the largest of which is Lake Supe, provide many benefits to the residents of the CNMI. These benefits include providing a source of water for the surrounding community, buffering the surrounding area from the impacts of flooding, retaining sediment and nutrient runoff that would otherwise flow into the lagoon, providing a place for fish and wildlife to live, and a place for recreation and enjoyment of nature.

HANMI

From Page 1

Cavanagh said, Russian tourists used to stay for three weeks or a month, or 45 days, which ever was permitted them.

"So we are...okay with this [14 days]...", she said.

Cavanagh believes that DHS or U.S. Customs and Border Protection is targeting certain types of tourists that might threaten the CNMI's parole program and that would be birth tourism.

"The only time you [are going to] stay 45 days is you are here to do exactly that, which is to have a child," she said.

Cavanagh said giving birth here is not necessarily against the law. However, when the CBP officer asks these tourists why they are here, their response is usually a lie. "They are here actually to have a child," she said.

Effective today, Oct. 3, CBP, citing a previously published *Federal Register* notice that removes the Russian Federation from being eligible for the CNMI-only parole authority, announced that there would be new requirements imposed on both airline carriers and Chinese tourists before they can enter the CNMI.

Chinese tourists will now only be allowed to enter the CNMI through the parole pro-

gram for a maximum 14-day stay in the CNMI instead of the previously allotted 45 days.

The HANMI chair said that between getting rid of that 45 days versus keeping the parole for those 40-50% tourists that the CNMI has in the market for regular Chinese tourists, HANMI is okay with shortening the time from 45 days to 14 days.

"As far as the hotels go, it doesn't really affect us at all. It will not reduce [the number of Chinese arrivals]," Cavanagh said.

She said majority of Chinese tourists stay in the CNMI anywhere from three to five days. "So, it has no effect whatsoever," she added.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and U.S. Department of the Interior official Douglas W. Domenech, who were the representatives of the CNMI and the U.S. federal government for the 902 Consultation, respectively, made four recommendations to U.S. President Donald Trump in their final 902 Consultation report filed last July. Among the recommendations is to modify the discretionary period of parole from 45 days to 14 days and electronic screening and vetting prior to arrival at the port of entry.

The report also mentioned concerns about the practice of birth tourism in the CNMI.

CNMI

From Page 1

CNMI economically.

In his presentation on the initial findings of the study, Stijn Schep from Wolfs Company warned, however, that this number should be taken with caution and that it is actually up to the people of the CNMI to decide how valuable these aspects of wetlands are to them.

The study was contracted through the Division of Coastal Resource Management at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality. Schep presented these findings last Sept. 25 at the BECQ for an agency presentation in the

CW-1 program.

Torres told the Chamber that he will be forming the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors, who will be made to understand the needs of the private sector and will be providing necessary insight to the CNMI's regulatory system, and help guide policies to support businesses.

"I ask for your patience as we continue the important work of building this economy to new heights and I look forward to continuing the amazing partnership we have developed," Torres told the Chamber.

TORRES

From Page 2

"In partnership with the private sector, we made our case to the federal government... and in a time of divisive immigration conversations, we secured our tourism arrivals through discussion, negotiation, and facts," Torres said.

Chamber president Velma Palacios thanked Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) for their efforts to keep businesses in the CNMI alive by fighting for the



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2 told they're lousy burglars

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
 ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

Two men were slapped last Tuesday with a 10-year and seven-year prison term, respectively, for a total of 12 burglaries involving business establishments on Saipan.

Steven Hasugulgam, 23, pleaded guilty to eight counts of burglary in seven cases, while Irwin Duane Teregeyo, 19, pleaded guilty to four counts of burglary in four cases.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Hasugulgam to a total of 24 years imprisonment, all suspended except for 10 years.

Govendo sentenced Teregeyo to a total of 15 years imprisonment, all suspended except for seven years.

Both were given credit for time served.

Hasugulgam shall be released from prison on Dec. 28, 2028, where he has been in custody since Dec. 28, 2018. Teregeyo shall be released from prison on Dec. 29, 2018; he has been in custody since Dec. 29, 2018.

The two will become eligible for parole after serving a third of their sentences.

After completing their prison terms, the two will be placed on 10 years of

probation.

Govendo told the two that they are still young and should rethink their careers as burglars.

"You guys are lousy, lousy burglars!" Govendo told the defendants.

The judge advised Hasugulgam and Teregeyo to rethink their career paths and try working instead once they get out of prison.

Govendo ordered the defendants to pay restitution to True Value Hardware in Garapan in the amount of \$734; I Love Saipan Pop-Up Store in Chalan Laulau, \$1,750; Blue Sky Market in San Antonio, \$7,825; Pena House Boutique in Chalan Kanoa, \$971; Surf Club in Chalan Kanoa, \$2,234; Todd Morgan, \$100; and Mario Blasquillo, \$150.

In addition, Hasugulgam was ordered to pay restitution to Bank of Saipan in Garapan in the amount of \$6,639; Delta Management Inc. that operates Shell Gas Station in Susupe, \$1,936; Surf Club, \$5,324; and Arnold Pascua, \$300.

Govendo ordered the defendants to stay away from the victims, including Marianas Eye Institute in Garapan and Saipan Vegas in Chalan Laulau, during their probation.

The defendants were ordered to each pay a \$100 fine,

plus court costs and probation fee. They were required to complete 200 hours of community work service.

Oliver Manglona and Kimberlyn King-Hinds appeared as counsel for Hasugulgam and Teregeyo, respectively.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreements, Hasugulgam and Teregeyo burglarized the True Value Hardware and the I Love Saipan Pop-Up Store on Dec. 27, 2018.

The defendants burglarized the Pena House Boutique and Blue Sky Market on Dec. 10 and 14, 2018, respectively.

On Nov. 4, 2018, they burglarized the Surf Club.

On Nov. 19 and Dec. 10, 2018, Hasugulgam burglarized the Shell gas station and Bank of Saipan, respectively.

On Dec. 24, 2018, Hasugulgam burglarized Surf Club.

As part of the plea agreements, assistant attorney general Heather P. Barcinas moved to dismiss the remaining counts of the cases. Barcinas agreed not to file any criminal charges in two other police cases.

The prosecutor also agreed not to revoke the probation of Teregeyo in all his juvenile matters. Govendo granted the motions.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
 Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-036

MANNED SECURITY and ELECTRONIC MONITORING SERVICES

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive bids from qualified firms to provide Manned Security and Electronic Monitoring Services for various sites at CUC, Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

Contractors must provide proof of "Indemnity Liability Insurance," specifically covering security workers assigned to CUC's compound. Coverage must be a minimum of \$200,000.00. The Contractor shall agree to and indemnify and hold CUC harmless from and against all liability, loss, damage or injury, and all cost and expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs of any suit related thereto) suffered or incurred by the Cooperative, arising from or related to Contractor's negligent performance under the contract.

Proponents shall provide a certification signed by a principal of the company stating that the company is currently in full compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal Labor Laws and has been for the past Five (5) years. Proponents shall submit a listing of all of its employees (US & Foreign) with corresponding job titles and a certification of good standing from the CNMI Department of Labor. Failure of the company to provide the certification is grounds to reject the entire Bid.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-19-036, Security Guard Services" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST, Saipan Time) on October 25, 2019.** Late submissions of Bids will not be considered.

This Invitation for bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of Bid in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. All responses to this Invitation for bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the Proponent, awarded a contract.

All Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the Bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a Bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 11, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Contracting Specialist via email address john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior - christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
 Acting Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
 Purchasing Officer

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE Lt. GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
 Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
ITB19-GOV-129
Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the 702 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funded by Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed bids for the Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on September 12, 2019 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30.3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on **Thursday, September 19, 2019, 10:00 am ChST** at the project site in Songsong Village, Rota, CNMI. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Ms. Nerissa Benavente in writing by e-mail: nerissa.cip@gmail.com, on or before **Wednesday, September 25, 2019** to the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **ITB19-GOV-129 Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST October 15, 2019**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST October 15, 2019** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 15, 2019 and the bid documents must be received no later than **October 24, 2019**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at **10:30 a.m. ChST October 28, 2019**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at **10:00 a.m. ChST October 15, 2019**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
 a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
 b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
 1) Cash
 2) US Government Securities
 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 180 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Ralph DLG. Torres
 Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
 CNMI Procurement & Supply

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**Join the Marianas Writers' Movement**

A free writing workshop about the first step to planning your novel is set for Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019, from 1pm to 3pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. This project is part of the "Rekindling Marianas Narratives: Write Your Novel!" mini-grant program and is made possible by support from the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, a non-profit, private corporation funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities. **(PR)**

Releasing of renewed PH passports

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, is releasing passports to those who renewed their Philippine passports last Aug. 15, 16, and 17, 2019. You can pick up the new passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg. D, second floor, on top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, from 9am to 5pm (12-1pm breaktime).

Bring your old passport and receipt. If someone else will pick up the passport, an authorization letter from the applicant/s is needed. For any inquiry or more details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. **(PR)**

NGSWCDB meeting set

The Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District Board will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, Oct. 4, at the University of Guam, College of Natural and Applied Sciences Bldg., Room 104 at 1:30pm. The annual joint meeting with Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District Board is scheduled at 2:30p.m. All government agency and non-government partners are invited to attend. **(PR)**

Writers' workshop on Oct. 19

Local writer Walt Goodridge will lead a writers' workshop on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2019, at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. In this interactive three-hour workshop, he will share step-by-step instructions on how to start your book project, overcome "writer's block," find the best and worst times to write, edit, layout and publish independently and even go from idea to sales in 24 hours or less. Goodridge is author of over two dozen books. This workshop on Oct 19, is from 9am to 12pm, at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library's video tele-conference room. Admission is \$10 in advance, and \$12 at the door. Twenty percent of admission proceeds will be donated directly to the library. Seating

is limited. To register, visit the front desk of the library. For more information, visit www.saipanwriters.com. **(PR)**

Guam outreach meetings on MCP's

The Guam Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources will be holding village outreach meetings for the Marine Conservation Plan at the following locations, dates, and time:

■ Inarajan Community Center on Oct. 3, 2019 at 6:30pm

■ Dededo Senior Center on Oct. 4, 2019, at 6:30pm.

The MCP contains conservation and management objectives, as well as prioritize planned projects to be funded and undertaken for the period of 2020-2023. Fishers and the community are encouraged to participate in the meetings to express their ideas and opinions during the development of the MCP.

For more information, contact: Department of Agriculture Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR) Tel: (671) 735-0283/85 Fax: (671) 735-3154. **(PR)**

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Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan and the **Veterans' Affairs Committee** of the **U.S. House of Representatives**

announce a

Veterans' Listening Session

Monday, October 7, 2019
9:00AM-11:00AM
American Memorial Park
Visitor Center Theater

Veterans will have the opportunity to share issues and concerns with the Chairman and Members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

For questions, please contact your Congressional Office at 670-323-2647.



Paid for by official funds authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Vivian Sablan is 2019 Bridge of Light awardee

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vivian Sablan is this year's Bridge of Light awardee.

The award, presented by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, honors Sablan's work to end domestic violence and sexual assault in the Commonwealth.

Sablan, who is administrator for the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, was honored as the recipient of the Bridge of Light

award during the signing ceremony for the proclamation of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month last Tuesday at the Saipan World Resort.

Sablan was chosen for her diligence to providing safety for the community, to working to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and to being a "Bridge of Light" for victims and survivors in the CNMI.

For the past 15 years, she has worked at the DCCA where she initiated the DDYS' volunteer program, foster care program, and emergency shelter program, among many others.



IVA MAURIN

2019 Bridge of Light awardee Vivian Sablan, seated center, with her staff at the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

In her speech to accept the award, Sablan gave credit to the collective efforts of the DYS staff at the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and their colleagues at DCCA.

Kumagai graduates from basic training

U.S. Air Force airman Dustin Joe Masayuki D. Kumagai has graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air

Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science



Kumagai

degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Kumagai is the son of Ronilo M. Reyes and Christine D. Kumagai of Saipan. He is a 2019 graduate of Saipan Southern High School. (PR)

"I firmly believe that the commitment and dedication to ending and preventing domestic violence lies in the power of engaging community agencies and community members at all levels," Sablan said. "As we empower families and connect them to vital services, we continue to [enable] strong and happy families at the CNMI."

At one point during her speech, Sablan asked everyone to look to the person to their right and say "To be survivor strong, we need to be community strong."

The Bridge of Light award honors the accomplishments and sacrifices of one individual who exemplifies the mission to promote, nourish and sustain a collective movement to end domestic violence in the CNMI.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School is proposing to construct three (3) structures with a total of 6 beds for its staff housing, and construct another structure for its laundry room. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on E.A. 1734 NEW-15 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, October 17, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, October 16, 2019. Please send written comments via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
T.C. International Development Inc.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. T.C. International Development Inc. is proposing to renovate and occupy four (4) existing 2-storey structures with a total of 38 guest units to operate a motel. This use is classified as "Motel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1340-B-2 & 1340-B-3 in Navy Hill.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, October 17, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, October 16, 2019. Please send written comments via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman



Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 17, 2019

5:00 PM, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 09/25/2019 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (*not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings*)

B. Public Hearings:

1. **Conditional Use Application #2019-3687:** Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School is proposing to construct three (3) structures with a total of 6 beds for its staff housing, and construct another structure for its laundry room. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on E.A. 1734 NEW-15 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

2. **Conditional Use Application #2019-3909:** T.C. International Development Inc. is proposing to renovate and occupy four (4) existing 2-storey structures with a total of 38 guest units to operate a motel. This use is classified as "Motel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1340-B-2 & 1340-B-3 in Navy Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

C. Communication

D. Old Business

E. New Business

1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous

- a. Other Matters
- b. Announcements
- c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Zoning Board Chairman

OLIVER M. MANGLONA, ESQ. (F0489)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 7862 SVRB
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 285-3750
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner Lisa Manglona Dela Cruz

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER) CIVIL ACTION
OF THE ESTATE) NO. 19-0240T
OF RITA)
AQUININGOC) NOTICE OF HEARING AND
MANGLONA,) NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Deceased.) DATE: October 17, 2019
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
JUDGE: Kenneth L. Govendo

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE RITA AQUININGOC MANGLONA OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Lisa Manglona Dela Cruz** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Northern Mariana Islands to Probate the Will and for Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **Rita Aquiningoc Manglona**, the deceased. The attorney for the Petitioner is **Oliver M. Manglona**, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 7862 SVRB, Saipan 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at the hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or her Estate are hereby required by the law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claims should also be sent to **OLIVER M. MANGLONA**, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of August, 2019.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT/DEPUTY CLERK

Marianas Ukulele Festival on Oct. 19



This year's 5th annual Marianas Ukulele Festival will feature professional ukulele master Blues Lee from Korea. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Calling all ukulele music lovers and uke jammers! The 5th Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 19, 2019, at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe from 2pm to 9pm promises to be an even bigger and better event this year.

The festival features continuous live entertainment, ukulele demonstrations, arts and crafts booths, food booths, and a raffle. As always, the Ukulele Festival is free and open to the public.

This year's program will feature professional ukulele master Blues Lee from Korea, along with his wife, Vivian Kim, and the Korean Women's Ensemble. Local performers confirmed so far include Marvin and Jay, Ed Johnson, and Alana'ia, Da Kine, Jose Carreon and Juan Ichihara, Saipan Community School, Domatsuri Warriors, and the Ukituki Band.

The Marianas Ukulele Festival Association is also partnering with various community-based ukulele instructional programs, such as the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs/Arts Council, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, and the Carolinian Affairs Of-

fice to provide greater access to formal ukulele instruction. Thirty scholarships for free ukulele lessons will be given away. Another goal is to get more ukuleles out into the community, so several ukuleles will be raffled off, along with other great prizes.

Festival partners/supporters, so far, include the Marianas Visitors Authority, DCCA/Arts Council, Island Training Solutions, IT&E, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Triple J Saipan, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Robert T. Torres Law Office, *Marianas Variety*, Island Image & Motion, Marianas Business Plaza, Hertz Rent a Car, Hyatt Regency Saipan, R& M Printers, KKMP radio, and PDI.

All ukulele players/groups interested in performing at the festival should contact Larry Lee at larrylee33@gmail.com or telephone 285-7127, or Gordon Marciano at gordon@pdisaipan.com or telephone 287-1195 by Oct. 12, 2019. Anyone interested in supporting the festival through cash or in-kind contributions should contact the same.

For more information, visit www.marianasukulelefestival.org. **(PR)**

FSM workers complain about mistreatment

SIOUX CITY, Iowa (AP)—The Federated States of Micronesia is raising concerns about how some of its citizens working at an Iowa pork processing plant are being treated.

Micronesia sent a formal letter to the U.S. State Department Friday asking U.S. officials to investigate possible misconduct at the Seaboard Triumph Foods plant, including verbal abuse, using false Social Security numbers and withholding workers' passports.

A State Department spokesman said Micronesia's concerns have been passed on to the Justice Department, which did not immediately respond Tuesday to questions.

The company denies any wrongdoing.

"Seaboard Triumph Foods is compliant with all laws and regulations during the hiring process and remains committed to ensuring a legally compliant work environment

for each member of our staff," Seaboard spokeswoman Tori O'Connell said.

Micronesia said in its letter that dozens of its citizens have complained about the way they have been treated while working at the plant.

Micronesia is a federation of several hundred islands in the Pacific Ocean that maintains a close relationship with the United States. Micronesian citizens have the right to live and work in the United States without obtaining a visa, and the U.S. has a responsibility to defend the islands.

Seaboard recruited workers from Micronesia, but the workers say conditions at the plant differed from what recruiters promised.

"The allegations by these Micronesian citizens include potential human trafficking, labor abuse and what appear to be other violations of U.S. law," the Micronesian government's letter said.

\$11.6M from FEMA for debris removal, reduction

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has obligated more than \$11.6 million for islandwide debris removal, debris reduction, and recovering costs for the CNMI government associated with debris removal after Super Typhoon Yutu.

The project worksheets include \$3.4 million for islandwide debris removal and \$8.2 million for debris reduction during this ongoing recovery from the 2018 typhoon season. The award totals \$11,601,848.36.

"Clearing debris from our

major roadways and villages was a critical priority during the recovery, and we are very grateful to FEMA for the partnership in awarding these funds to pay off debris removal contracts and vendors," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in announcing the FEMA award last Sunday.

"We are also reimbursing some of the costs our government had to pay upfront in order to expedite clearing our streets and residential areas," Torres added. "We continue to push on several requests for reimbursements

to address key areas of the recovery and replenish our general fund. While we wait for these reimbursements to come in, the partnership has been strong, and I thank FEMA, our federal and military partners, and our local first responders for their work during the debris removal process and for working to expedite our overall recovery."

The governor's authorized representative, Virginia Villagomez, said the project worksheets continue to come in from FEMA for the CNMI

government as recovery continues.

"Our Public Assistance team, along with several key government agencies, are working very hard to get additional funds and reimbursements to recover central government costs and to strengthen our infrastructure for the future," Villagomez said. "The collaboration with FEMA and our federal partners has been tremendous, and we look forward to more of the same as we move forward on our road to recovery." **(PR)**

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 196Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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EDITORIAL

Listen to the children. Take action on climate change

There have been five Category 5 hurricanes—all of which made landfall—in the Atlantic since 2016. Five.

Before that, the Atlantic basin had gone eight years without one of these monster tropical cyclones. Eight.

The ugly truth, according to climate scientists, is that we have no reason not to expect another Dorian. Or another Harvey. Or another Michael.

A 20-page synopsis of current research about global warming and hurricanes by NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory summarizes that sea level rise, "which very likely has a substantial human contribution," will cause higher coastal inundation levels for tropical storms. This means bigger waves and higher storm surge that reaches farther inland.

It also means that Florida—which, to quote one local emergency manager, "dodged a nuclear bomb" in the form of Hurricane Dorian—faces a heightened threat from such catastrophic storms in coming years.

So, as much as we appreciate the new talk of "resiliency" against the effects of climate change from our new governor, Florida needs to move beyond playing catch-up and get ahead of this.

We need to be brave and bold not only in our thinking, but in our actions: To truly encourage alternate energy usage and create tax incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On the campaign trail a year ago, Gov. Ron DeSantis said he saw no role for a state to play in combating climate change. He was dead wrong.

Florida has a leadership role to play. Climate and storm experts warn that the conduct of recent Category 4 and 5 hurricanes—flooding rains, escalating intensities and a swollen storm surge riding on rising seas—is consistent with what climate change models predict will happen more often as the world warms.

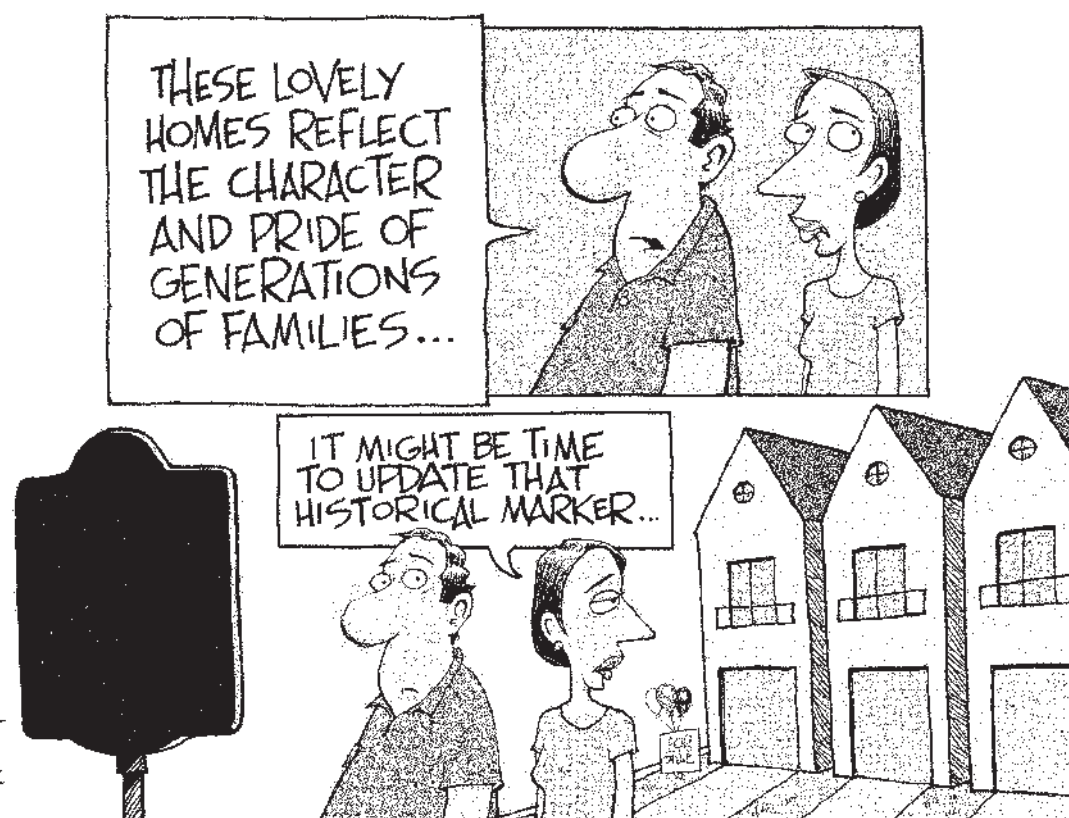
"It's kind of like your chickens coming home to roost. Dorian is all those things we predict: a rapid intensifier, it was a strong storm that maintained its strength for a long time, and it stalled," Jim Kossin, a climate scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, told the Palm Beach Post's Kimberly Miller. "It's a poster child for how bad things can get."

Last week, as the United Nations focuses the world's attention on the climate change threat, it would have been heartening to see DeSantis and other Florida leaders step to the fore. Why? Because our beautiful state, with 1,200 miles of exposed coastline, is arguably more at risk than any other—literally millions of residents and billions of dollars in development from Miami Beach to Fort Walton Beach.

Yes, we need sea walls and raised roads to help stave off (at least, temporarily) the effects of a slowly encroaching sea. But neither would have protected our region's coastal areas from Hurricane Dorian's 20-foot storm surge and 3 to 4 feet of rain.

We are running out of time to curb man-made impacts on climate.

See LISTEN on Next Page

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CHRONICLE

Similarities and differences to Watergate

In one presidential scandal, an anonymous government official dubbed "Deep Throat" provided the crucial information that helped break the case. In the other, it's an anonymous government whistleblower.

That's just one of the uncanny parallels between the events that forced President Richard Nixon's 1974 resignation in the Watergate scandal and those that precipitated the current House impeachment probe of President Donald Trump.

There are also some, but fewer, parallels with the events that led to President Bill Clinton's 1998 impeachment.

At the center of the Trump probe is the White House summary transcript of his July 25 conversation with Ukraine's new president, asking him "to do us a favor" of investigating presidential rival Joe Biden.

It was evidence of a conversation that sank Nixon—the "smoking gun" tape that became public some two years after the break-in at the Democratic Party's Watergate headquarters.

An equally important parallel is the contention by the unnamed government whistleblower that Trump's advisers sought to "lock down" any records of the president's effort to use pending U.S. aid to Ukraine to leverage President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to reopen probes into Biden and his son, Hunter.

It resembles Nixon's effort requesting the FBI and the CIA to cover up the role of his campaign operatives in the June 1973 break-in—and subsequent efforts to silence the burglars by paying them off. Nixon was already facing likely impeachment and conviction when disclosure of that directive on the tape-recorded conversation prompted his resignation.

Anonymous government officials were crucial to both cases.

In Watergate, the anonymous government source known as Deep Throat, revealed years later to be top FBI official Mark Felt, provided details that helped Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein break key aspects of the case.

In the Trump inquiry, the key figure has been the unnamed whistleblower, who The New York Times said was a CIA official detailed to White House duty. Like Felt, he used his position to out what he saw as wrongdoing; like Felt, his name will presumably become known, maybe sooner rather than later.

Finally, like Nixon, Trump is accused of seeking to damage Democratic political opponents. The real motive for the 1972 Watergate break-in remains hazy, but the target was obvious: the rival party.

And Trump made clear in talking to Zelenskiy that his principal target was Biden, shown in polls to be his strongest 2020 opponent.

(Clinton's impeachment was different because his misdeeds were personal, not political. But a hitherto obscure government employee, Linda Tripp, was the person who exposed his affair with intern Monica Lewinsky.)

The Nixon and Trump cases have one major difference.

It took nearly two years, three major investigations and countless court hearings before the smoking gun tape emerged among

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF
The Dallas Morning News

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the 64 recordings of presidential conversations that the Supreme Court ruled had to be turned over to the Watergate special counsel and congressional investigators.

By contrast, it took barely a week for the White House's release of two damaging documents to precipitate the Trump impeachment effort—the summary transcript of the president's phone call with Zelenskiy and the whistleblower's detailing of White House efforts to conceal it.

Their release forced the long-simmering discussion of possible impeachment proceedings onto the front-burner and ensured enough House Democratic support to make impeachment likely. The release may also have turned around the views of a public previously reluctant to support impeaching Trump.

The public way this unfolded will make managing Trump's impeachment easier than pursuit of Nixon 45 years ago.

The White House itself, and the whistleblower, have provided the raw material delineating the wrongdoing that will be at the heart of any impeachment articles.

The administration may well resist House Democratic efforts to speed the process to keep ahead of the 2020 presidential campaign calendar. On Tuesday, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, himself subpoenaed for key documents, ordered officials cited in the account not to testify later in the week.

However, since the questioners will already know many of the answers, White House and Trump lawyers may face the burden of having to disprove allegations, rather than forcing the law-makers to prove them.

Judging from the administration's resistance to other House oversight hearings this year, its witnesses could well be less cooperative than the Nixon administration and campaign officials who testified before the Senate Watergate Committee as it developed the scandal's key facts.

Finally, there is this:

A long-standing Washington maxim is that the cover-up is often worse than the crime. That was true with Nixon's order directing important federal agencies to hide the break-in by his campaign operatives into the rival party's headquarters. (And it was true with Clinton's lies about his relationship with Lewinsky.)

With Trump, however, the events that precipitated the inquiry, notably Trump's phone call asking the Ukrainian president to investigate Joe Biden at a time he was withholding promised military aid, may prove worse than any efforts to hide them.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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This is my third impeachment. Here's what I've learned

In 1973, as a student journalist, I stood against the back wall of the ornate Senate Caucus Room and scribbled notes as the Senate Watergate Committee held hearings on the tangled misdeeds of President Nixon.

I listened as John W. Dean, Nixon's former counsel, said he had warned of "a cancer on the presidency."

In 1999, as a Times reporter, I stood in the Senate Press Gallery and watched senators solemnly pronounce their verdicts in the impeachment trial of President Clinton, including, on one count, a carefully choreographed 50-50 tie.

And last week, I watched House Democrats launch the third formal effort to impeach a president in the last half century, this time against President Trump.

No two presidents are alike, of course, and no two impeachment battles are alike. Nixon resigned in disgrace in 1974 once it was clear that he would be impeached by the House and removed by the Senate. Clinton was impeached by the House but acquitted in the Senate, and finished his term as a largely popular figure.

The obvious question is whether Trump's experience will be more like Nixon's, ending his presidency, or like Clinton's, an ordeal he turned into a victory of sorts.

Nixon's offenses were weighty. In August 1974, the House Judiciary Committee approved three articles of impeachment, including one for abuse of power stemming from his attempts to use the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service to investigate his political opponents.

Clinton's offenses stemmed from his extramarital affair with a former White House intern and his false denials under oath. The principal charge was perjury.

In both cases, impeachment began as a partisan affair—Democrats investigating Nixon, Republicans pursuing Clinton. Most Americans initially opposed removing either president from office.

But the two impeachments went in opposite directions.

In Nixon's case, two years of investigations unleashed an avalanche of new facts: abuses of power, an elaborate White House cover-up and undeniable evidence that Nixon had directed the

entire criminal affair.

Yet public opinion shifted very slowly. Only after the discovery of a "smoking gun," an Oval Office recording of Nixon ordering the cover-up, did a majority want him to resign.

Within days, Republican leaders told Nixon that he had lost the support of his own party, and he quit.

In Clinton's case, an independent counsel found that he had lied under oath to cover up his affair. Most Americans didn't see that as just cause to oust him. When the House voted to impeach Clinton in December 1998, only 29% of voters approved, few of them Democrats.

Lesson One: House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) is correct: An impeachment effort can succeed only if it has bipartisan support.

That's why Republicans, not Democrats, are the ones to watch now.

Most GOP lawmakers remain solidly behind Trump. A few say the evidence that Trump abused his office for personal gain is serious enough to investigate, a position short of the all-out defense Trump would like. For now, impeachment is only a Democratic cause.

Lesson Two: Facts, not arguments, drive shifts in public opinion.

During Watergate, Republican politicians edged away from Nixon as damning new evidence of his guilt emerged. In Clinton's case, his fundamental crime—lying about sex—seemed less significant, and Democrats never wavered in their support.

That makes the whistleblower's complaint ominous for Trump. The intelligence office alleged that Trump blocked congressionally approved military aid to Ukraine to back up his demand for dirt on Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and his son Hunter, who had worked for an energy company in Kyiv.

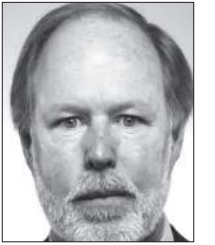
The impeachment investigation will either persuade more Republicans to voice concerns (as with Nixon) or it won't (a la Clinton).

Lesson Three: The offense must be "impeachable"—but there's no consensus on what that means. The Constitution cites bribery, treason and "high crimes and misdemeanors" as im-

By **DOYLE MCMANUS**

Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a contributing writer to Opinion.



peachable offenses, but doesn't specify them.

Gerald R. Ford offered the most practical definition before he succeeded Nixon as president: "An impeachable offense is whatever a majority of the House of Representatives considers it to be."

Some Republicans have argued that Trump's efforts to get Ukraine to help his 2020 campaign were "inappropriate" but not "impeachable."

But several elements make the allegations look weighty.

Military support for Ukraine against Russia has strong bipartisan support in Congress. If the House investigations find that Trump delayed badly needed weapons to bully Ukraine into meddling in a U.S. presidential election, more Republicans may think twice.

The irony is that the strongest evidence against Trump, at least so far, is his own words during a July 25 phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. It's why, according to the whistleblower, White House lawyers tried to "lock down" all records of the conversation, a potential coverup.

Final lesson: Impeachment proceedings are long, painful and ugly. But eventually a resolution comes.

In 1999, at the end of Clinton's trial, I watched senators cross the aisle to hug each other, elated that their institution had survived. In 1974, Ford invited the House Democratic leader who had spearheaded impeachment, Rep. Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr. (D-Mass.), to his swearing in as president.

"Christ, Jerry," O'Neill said, "Isn't this a wonderful country?"

Our republic has survived two impeachments in my lifetime. It can surely survive a third.

Bernie Sanders and the anti-people crusade

At least Bernie Sanders is an equal opportunity misanthrope. He doesn't like rich people, and it turns out he doesn't necessarily like poor people, either.

At the recent CNN town hall on climate change, a questioner asked the socialist senator if he'd be "courageous" enough to endorse population control to save the planet. Sanders answered "yes," and then, after referring to abortion rights, endorsed curtailing population growth, "especially in poor countries around the world where women do not necessarily want to have large numbers of babies."

He's looking at you, sub-Saharan Africa.

The Sanders riff is the latest instance of a rising anti-natalism on the left, which has gone from arguing that carbon emissions are a problem to arguing that human beings are a problem. They release carbon emissions, don't they? Q.E.D.

When a proposition has the support of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who questions the morality of having children, and Bill Nye the Science Guy, who has discussed punishing people for having children, it's on the way to universal assent among a certain segment of soi-disant thoughtful progressives. A headline in The New York Times even asked, "Would Human Extinction Be a Tragedy?"

Undergirding the anti-natalist position is the belief that we are

facing a global catastrophe, such that additional babies will tip the planet into uninhabitability for everyone. This goes beyond the best evidence, and discounts the human capacity for adaptation that is one of our chief attributes.

The view that human beings are an unsustainable drain on limited resources goes back to the 18th-century thinker Thomas Malthus and, more recently, the Stanford University biologist Paul Ehrlich. In his 1968 book "The Population Bomb," Ehrlich put an emphasis on overly fertile Third World countries, just as Bernie Sanders did.

But if consumption and carbon emissions are the concern, it's rich people in developed countries who are the bigger problem and should be dealt with accordingly (a task for which Sanders is disarmingly well-suited). As Benjamin Zycher of the American Enterprise Institute notes, rising incomes -- considered an unalloyed good by anyone who experiences them -- invariably increase energy consumption.

What are we to make of an agenda that seeks to diminish the number of human beings overall and to make those who enjoy material prosperity less wealthy?

At a more fundamental level, the anti-natalists have a gross materialistic view of humanity. For them, we are a series of inputs and outputs, and if one particular output is considered un-

these long-term impacts. Begin by replacing the state government's own fleet of gas-powered vehicles with electric. Place rooftop solar on every state-owned building. And, as Hurricane Michael painfully reminded us, begin to explore limiting coastal development.

We invite other ideas.

On Sept. 23, the 16-year-old climate activist Greta Thunberg told world leaders at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York, starkly:

By **RICH LOWRY**

King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



desirable (in this case, carbon emissions), it reduces the value of human beings altogether. No one who isn't a cracked ideological extremist or perversely blinkered economist actually looks at people this way. It doesn't account for relationships or for joy, for the wondrous distinctiveness of every person, no matter how poor or humble.

People aren't a burden; they are a resource and a gift. Any movement that regards them any other way is profoundly misguided and deeply anti-humane. Build windmills if you must, but don't try to scare people out of having children -- or much worse, facilitate abortions -- in your zeal to shave some fraction of a degree off the global temperature 80 years from now.

"You are failing us. But the young people are starting to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you choose to fail us, I say: We will never forgive you."

A week ago, Thunberg addressed a congressional committee in Washington. "I want you to listen to the scientists," she said. "And I want you to unite behind the science. And then I want you to take real action."

Out of the mouths of babes.






LISTEN

From Page 10

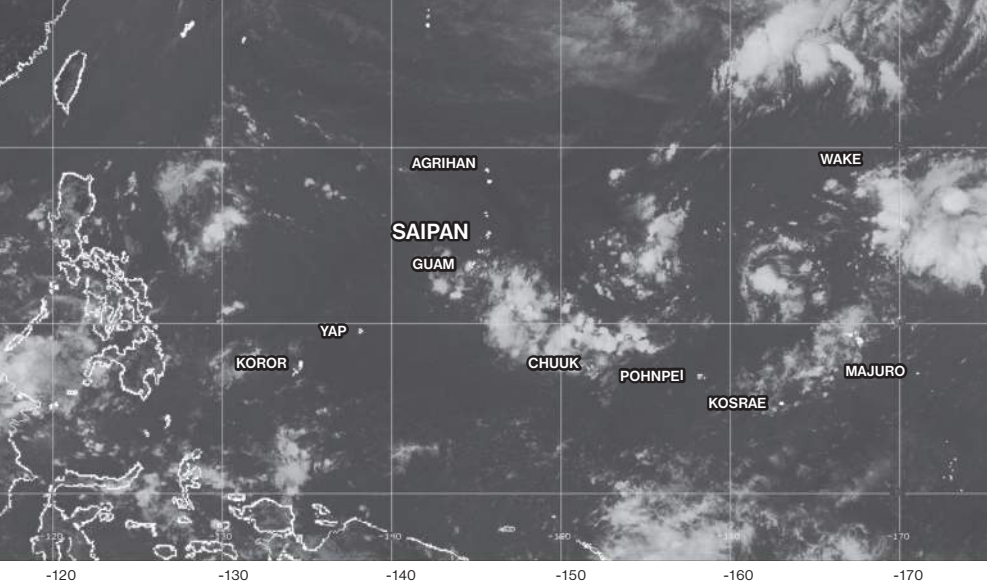
According to the GFDL report, the global proportion of tropical cyclones that reach Category 4 and 5 strengths is likely to increase because of human-caused warming over the 21st century.

Again, here is where bold, brave Florida leadership could show its citizens—and other states—how to begin combating

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. North winds around 10 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	78°	89°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	87°	78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:30 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scatterometer analysis from Tuesday night showed a weak monsoon trough stretching across the local area with the axis just south of Guam. North to northeast winds north of the trough will prevail across the Marianas the next few days. Low-level convergence north of the trough and enough deep-layer moisture will continue to produce isolated showers and thunderstorms through tonight. Models show the monsoon trough pushing further south and drier air filtering in across the local area which will keep showers at a minimum through the coming weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	87° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	59° / 52°	
Beijing	Rain	55° / 45°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	90° / 79°	
Honolulu	Windy	87° / 77°	
London	Cloudy	61° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	79° / 59°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°	
Melbourne	Showers	59° / 48°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
New York	Showers	60° / 59°	
Osaka	c	82° / 70°	
Paris	Cloudy	61° / 52°	
Busan	Sunny	81° / 66°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	75° / 50°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	97° / 70°	
San Francisco	Windy	62° / 50°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	81° / 61°	
Tokyo	Thunderstorm	82° / 70°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	81° / 67°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:53 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.05	
11:34 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.82	
5:23 PM	LOW TIDE	1.01	
10:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.78	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:04 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:16 AM	9:56 PM	-
Friday	11:13 AM	10:48 PM	-
Saturday	12:09 AM	11:40 PM	-
Sunday	1:01 AM	-	-
Monday	-	12:32 AM	1:50 PM

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:57am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:07am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
BC802	4:45pm	7:30pm	Sep 20 to 22	BC801	10:00am	2:40pm	Sep 20 to 22
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 3 Sep 29 to Oct 6	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	4, 7 Sep 29 to Oct 6
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily				
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

USCG joins 75th occasion of Ulithi Liberation in FSM

ULITHI ATOLL, Federated States of Micronesia—At the invitation of the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia, USCGC *Kiska* attended a remembrance ceremony last Sept. 23 for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Ulithi from Japanese Forces during World War II.

Along with the USNS *Vadm K. R. Wheeler*, *Kiska*'s crew anchored in Ulithi Atoll, part of Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia, and conducted community outreach, transported supplies from the Ayuda Foundation out of Guam, and participated

in the remembrance.

The U.S. group—composed of U.S. Ambassador Robert Riley, his team, *Kiska* and *Vadm K. R. Wheeler* crews—toured Ulithi high school, reconstructed with funding from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency after Ty-

phoon Maysak ravaged the island in 2015, and ceremonies proceeded at the U.S. Agency for International Development-constructed outdoor pavilion, with speeches and local dances, songs, and chants performed by residents.

"The ceremony highlighted the importance of Ulithi Atoll during World War II, which at one point served as a major ship refitting station during the island hopping operations of [the war]. The locals have a strong appreciation for their history, as well as a great sense of humor," said Lt. Brenden Kelley, commanding officer, of *Kiska*. "They say jokes, being able to laugh at a witty turn of phrase is their poetry, and they live it! What an amazing island to visit."

Riley addressed the historical importance of the Ulithi effort in World War II, and reminded everyone the liberation was the beginning of "our unique and special relationship, forged decades ago."

Yap Gov. Henry Falan lauded the occasion, noting the positive benefits of the U.S. presence in the region resonated then and remain relevant now. Chief Ramon Payel, chairman of the Council of Tamol, spoke movingly of residents' reminiscences of the kindness of U.S. Navy personnel, and further personalized his connection to the event by pointing out his father in one of the historic photos bequeathed to the island by the U.S. Embassy for the occasion.

U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy personnel joined the festivities and hosted U.S. and Yap officials for lunch on the



USNS *Vadm K. R. Wheeler*, contributing to the intercultural exchanges throughout the day.

Part of the crew went ashore via small boat to the main island in the atoll, Faralop Island, the day before the ceremony to play basketball with the Ulithi High School team and see the island.

"The kids came running to the small boat when they saw it near the beach," Petty Officer 3rd Class Ivan Dorsey, a boatswain's mate on *Kiska*. "We brought some candy to share, and they [the children] started bringing us shells they found and asking questions about the boat. They stayed over an hour!"

The crew also played basketball with the local team. It began with Lee, an is-

land local retired from the U.S. Navy, who rang their "basketball bell" an empty high-pressure gas canister, letting everyone know of the upcoming basketball game. The Ulithi team beat the *Kiska* team in overtime.

"They all play very well together," said Seaman Jacob Forgette. "And barefoot as well."

The *Kiska* is a 110-foot Island-class patrol boat homeported out of Apra Harbor, Guam. The Coast Guard conducts regular operations to strengthen relations with allies and partner nations throughout the Blue Pacific. *Kiska* was in Yap last July 3 alongside the U.S. Navy Coastal Riverine Squadron 2 for a port call and to deliver supplies. (USCG)



The USCGC *Kiska* crew pose for a commemorative picture after participating a remembrance ceremony last Sept. 23, 2019, for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Ulithi from Japanese Forces during World War II. They were joined by the USNS *Vadm K. R. Wheeler* crew. U.S. COAST GUARD

New locations for onsite overseas military naturalizations

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced Monday, Sept. 30, that it will provide military naturalization services at four overseas military bases, due to the agency's shifting international footprint and office closures overseas.

Service members and eligible family members who are stationed overseas will now complete their naturalization process at one of four "hubs" located at Camp Humphreys, South Korea; Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan; U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Germany; and Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy. These hubs were selected based on their proximity to locations where USCIS international offices historically provided the most overseas military naturalization services.

"Ensuring that the men and women who dedicate their lives to protecting the United States of America can become citizens while serving abroad is of paramount importance," said acting USCIS director Ken Cuccinelli. "These service members and their families sacrifice so much to keep our country safe and free. I thank the Department of Defense for partnering with USCIS to ensure naturalization services remain available throughout their deployments overseas."

USCIS officers, in close coordination with the Defense

Department, will travel to each hub for one week each quarter to provide onsite naturalization services and answer applicant questions. Appointments will be required so that USCIS officers have case information necessary to complete the process. In fiscal year

» Only a small percentage of military naturalizations occur overseas

2018, USCIS received 347 overseas military naturalization applications. Thus far in fiscal year 2019, the agency has received 520.

The first hub visits by USCIS officers are scheduled to occur in late October and early November to Camp Humphreys, South Korea, and Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, respectively. The USCIS office in Seoul closes on Sept. 30, making this region the first to receive onsite services at a hub location. Other overseas regions will phase in to this hub approach over the next nine months. If an applicant is unable to travel to the designated hub during the quarter that USCIS officers will be there, USCIS will follow existing procedures and coordinate with the applicant on a case-by-case basis to determine the best way to handle their case.

USCIS will hold a tele-

conference engagement on Oct. 9 to discuss the updated locations and will also conduct outreach events during hub visits to inform service members about citizenship and naturalization procedures as well as provide general information about USCIS petitions and applications.

In August 2019, in an effort to streamline and make immigration processing more efficient, USCIS announced that it would phase out all but seven of its international offices by July 2020. Many functions currently performed at international offices will either be handled domestically, by USCIS staff on temporary assignments abroad, or by the Department of State.

USCIS offers a toll-free Military Help Line at 877-CIS-4MIL (877-247-4645, TTY 800-877-8339) and email address at militaryinfo@uscis.dhs.gov exclusively for active-duty service members and their families, as well as veterans. Representatives are available to answer calls Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm Central, excluding federal holidays. Members of the U.S. armed forces and their families stationed in the U.S. or overseas may access the help line using the toll-free number through their base telephone operator or using the Defense Switched Network. Additional information is available on the USCIS website. (USCIS)

Deadline to submit Humanities Awards nominees

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Have you, or anyone you know, made a significant achievement in the field of humanities this year?

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council, with the Office of the Governor, is reminding everyone to submit their nominations for this year's Governor's Humanities Awards.

NMHC executive director Leo Pangelinan encourages the community to submit who they think made an exemplary contribution in the field of humanities on the island.

"We are looking for people who, within the past year, have made achievements in four categories," Pangelinan said. "This include research and publication in the humanities, preservation of traditional cultural practices, preservation of CNMI history, and those among us

who are outstanding humanities teachers, whether they're teaching in the classroom or outside the classroom."

The council will also be honoring, with a Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities award, its most prestigious award, to one who has made significant contributions in one or more fields of humanities over the decades, three or more.

This event, held annually in October as part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

This would be in the field of history, philosophy, languages, linguistics, literature, archaeology, jurisprudence, history and philosophy of science, ethics, comparative religion, and social sciences employing cultural anthropology, sociology, political theory, international rela-

tions, and other subjects concerned with questions of human value.

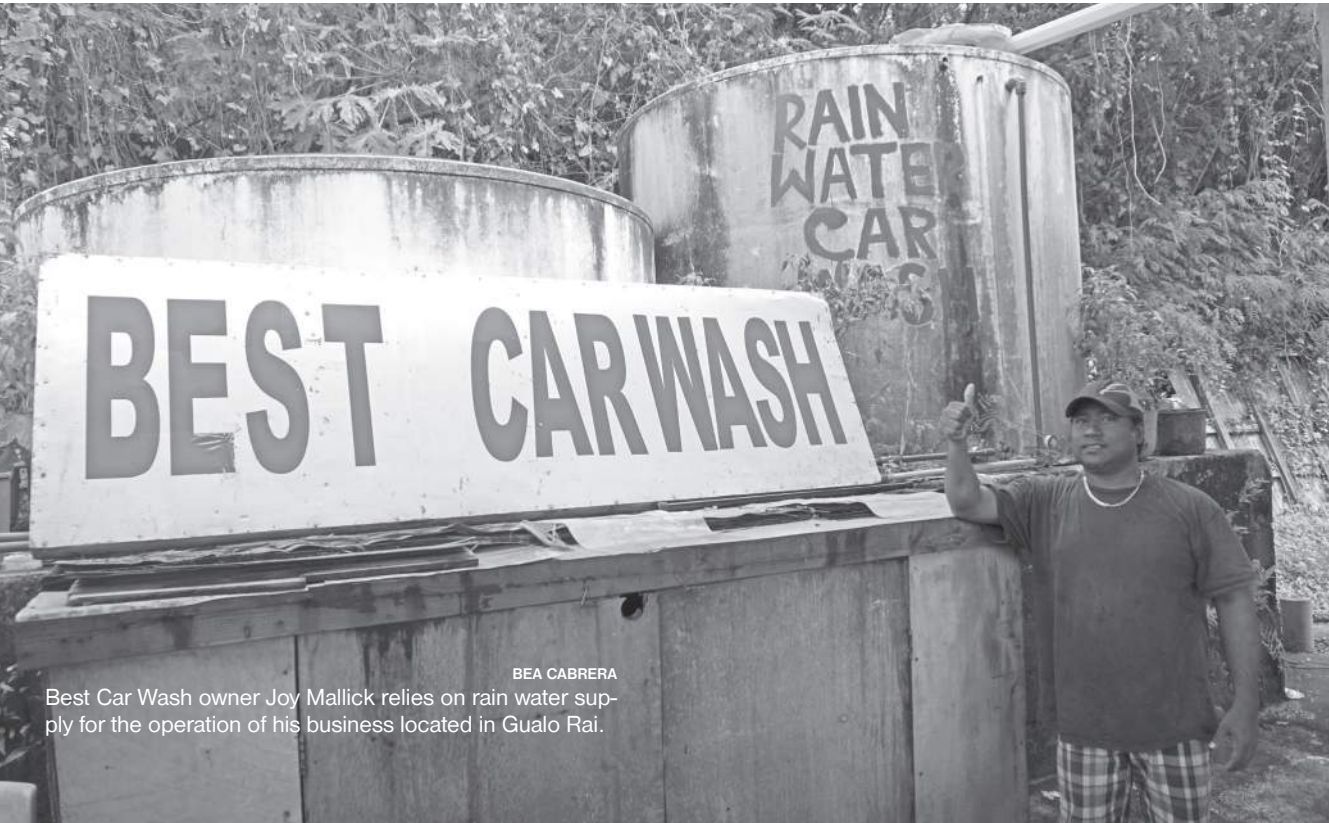
Pangelinan said individuals can also self-nominate.

Last year's Governor's Humanities awardees were Galvin Deleon Guerrero (preservation of CNMI History), Victor Cabrera (outstanding humanities teacher, classroom setting), Cecilio Raiukilipiy (outstanding humanities teacher, non-classroom setting), Gordon Marciano (preservation of traditional cultural practices), Don Farrell (research and publication in the humanities), and Scott Russell (lifetime achievement award in the humanities).

Applications are available at the NMHC website, nmhc-council.org. The deadline to submit completed nominations at the NMHC office is at 4pm on Oct. 11, Friday. For more information, contact the Humanities Council at 235-4785/7/9.

Business

Best Car Wash makes your car shine



Best Car Wash owner Joy Mallick relies on rain water supply for the operation of his business located in Gualo Rai.

“We guarantee that your car will come out clean and shiny,” said Best Car Wash owner Joy Mallick.

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Car owners who pay special attention to their cars abide by the saying “A clean car is a happy car” and one way to achieve this is to wash them regularly. This task could be daunting to busy people but this is why Best Car Wash in Gualo Rai (beside Salvation Army) was established a year ago.

Best Car Wash owner Joy Mallick said that their service lives up to their name.

“We would like to be known as the best car wash on Saipan giving quality service from

start to finish. For those people who don’t have time to clean their car because of work or they would rather spend time with family, we can make their cars clean and shiny all the time.”

“We are very detailed in cleaning a vehicle whether is a small or a big car. For exterior cleaning, we start from the roof, work down on the sides of the car and down to the wheels. Cleaning the interior come after the wash where we use armor all to wipe all the surface in the car and vacuum all corners of the floor,” he added.

Mallick used to be the own-

er of a mini grocery called JM Market in San Roque. “We closed it after Super Typhoon Soudelor. I opened up the same shop in Gualo Rai but I also experienced losses after Typhoon Yutu. I decided to put up a car wash business and keep my operations low,” he said.

“On a good day, we get 10 to 15 cars especially during summer time,” he added.

One thing unique about Best Car Wash is that they use rain water for washing the vehicles.

“Rain water is great for washing a car because it is in its purest and cleanest state. It does not contain minerals and

salts that can cause or worsen rust,” Mallick said.

“We have a big tank in the car wash and it is always filled with rain water. It makes us save operation costs, good for environment and very good for the cars. Aside from keeping the car clean, rain water keeps vehicle from deterioration,” he added.

Best Car Wash does wash and vacuum services for only \$15 for sedans and \$20 for SUVs.

“If customer comes and wants to avail one service like vacuum only, we can do that. We have ports to accommo-

United increases flights between Guam and Osaka to 10 times weekly

GUAM—United Airlines announced that effective Dec. 10, 2019, United will increase its service to 10 times-weekly between Guam and Osaka, Japan, subject to government approval. United currently operates a daily morning flight (UA150/151) aboard a Boeing 737 aircraft.

United will add three late afternoon flights each week out of Guam on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays through March 2020, the island’s peak winter travel season. The flight will depart Guam at 4:50pm and arrive at Osaka at 7:50pm, allowing travelers the opportunity to stay an extra day on island. The Osaka to Guam segment will leave Osaka at 8:45pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and arrive in Guam at 1:20am on the following day.

The additional three flights will add more than 370 seats weekly each way or more than 6,400 seats during the period. Tickets are now available for purchase.

The addition of the three times-weekly Guam-Osaka flights comes at the heels of United’s recent announcement of three additional flights weekly between Guam and Nagoya, expanding the frequency to twice daily through the winter peak season.

“It is always a pleasure for Guam’s Hometown Airline to make announcements about capacity increases for Guam,” said Sam Shinohara, United’s managing director for Airport Operations for the Asia/Pacific. “We are committed to working closely with industry partners in Guam and Japan to build demand for travel and increase seat capacity between the two markets. The more flights we offer between Guam and Japan benefits travelers throughout our network, who need convenient connections to Asia or the U.S. mainland.”

The increase in demand for travel from Japan to Guam has also prompted United to reintroduce the Boeing 777-200 aircraft on two of its three daily flights between Guam and Tokyo’s Narita International Airport from Aug. 1, 2019 through Mar. 30, 2020. The reintroduction of the B777s during this period will offer customers nearly 900 daily seats daily each way between Tokyo and Guam.

“United continues to monitor the market and quickly adjusts capacity as needed. What does not change is our commitment to growing the markets and economies we serve,” Shinohara added. (PR)

Drug stores trying to remove judge from US opioid litigation

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A group of drug retailers and distributors asked an Ohio federal appeals court Tuesday to disqualify the judge overseeing national opioid litigation after the judge himself denied their requests.

Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid and drug distributors AmerisourceBergen, McKesson and Cardinal Health told the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati that Cleveland-based U.S. District Judge Dan Polster is not impartial.

Polster made the initial ruling on their claim, declining Thursday to remove himself from the massive multidistrict

litigation and insisting he has remained neutral.

“Publicly acknowledging this human toll does not suggest I am biased; it shows that I am human,” he wrote at the time.

But defense attorneys argued in Tuesday’s filing that Polster has been too involved in settlement talks surrounding the more than 2,000 cases in which cities, counties, tribal governments and unions seek damages from the pharmaceutical industry for the national opioid crisis.

“Petitioners do not make this request lightly,” they wrote. “But the extraordinary nature and number of the

Judge’s actions and comments leave Petitioners no choice. Judge Polster has lost sight of his judicial responsibilities under Article III — neutrality, discretion, and restraint.”

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Polster was nominated for the federal bench by Democratic President Bill Clinton. He was confirmed in 1998.

The latest in the dispute over Polster’s fitness to preside over the case comes less than three weeks before the first jury trial is set to begin. That bellwether trial is to involve Akron — Ohio’s fifth-largest city — and the surrounding Summit County, as

well as Cleveland’s Cuyahoga County.

The companies said the timing is intentional because they want Polster removed before jury selection begins on Oct. 16, with trial following Oct. 21.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs said they are aggressively preparing for trial and hoping the 6th Circuit would not remove Polster.

“We hope the 6th Circuit sees this move for what it is — another desperate ploy by the defendants to derail the upcoming trial and avoid accountability for their role in creating the opioid epidemic,” they said in an emailed statement.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW 26,573.04 -343.79 1.28%	S&P 2,940.25 -36.49 1.23%	NASDAQ 7,908.68 -90.65 1.13%
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EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.4887	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8418	Russian Ruble	65.1874
British Pound	0.8141	Indian Rupee	70.4104	Singapore Dollar	1.3844
Canadian Dollar	1.3211	Japanese Yen	107.8170	South Korean Won	1181.47
Chinese Yuan	7.0236	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1463	Swiss Franc	0.9930
Euro	0.9147	New Zealand Dollar	1.5990	Taiwan Dollar	30.5445
		Philippine Peso	50.9302	Thailand Baht	30.5935

Nation

Warnings over Trump inquiry fly between Pompeo and Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP)—Setting a defiant tone, the Trump administration resisted Congress' access to impeachment witnesses, even as House Democrats warned such efforts themselves could amount to an impeachable offense.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo tried to delay five current and former officials from providing documents and testimony in the impeachment inquiry that could lead to charges against President Donald Trump. But Democrats were able to set closed-door depositions for Thursday for former special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker and next week for ousted U.S. Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch.

The escalating exchange of accusations and warnings on Tuesday signaled yet another stiffening in the confrontation between the executive and legislative branches amid the Democrats' launching of the impeachment inquiry late last



AP
Secretary of State Mike Pompeo looks on during an Armed Forces welcome ceremony for the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, Monday, Sept. 30, 2019, at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va.

gings of Oversight.

They said that if he was on Trump's call, "Secretary Pompeo is now a fact witness in the House impeachment inquiry." And they warned, "He should immediately cease intimidating Department witnesses in order to protect himself and the President."

On Wednesday, the State Department's inspector general is expected to brief congressional staff from several House and Senate appropriations, oversight, foreign affairs and intelligence committees on their requests for information and documents on Ukraine, according to an aide familiar with the planning. The inspector general acts independently from Pompeo.

The committees are seeking voluntary testimony from the current and former officials as the House digs into State Department actions and Trump's other calls with foreign leaders that have been shielded from scrutiny.

In halting any appearances by State officials, and demanding that executive branch lawyers accompany them, Pompeo is underscoring Attorney General William Barr's expansive view of White House authority and setting a tone for conflicts to come.

week. That followed a national security whistleblower's disclosure of Trump's July phone call seeking help from the new Ukrainian president in investigating Democratic political rival Joe Biden and Biden's son Hunter.

In a Tuesday evening tweet, Trump cast the impeachment inquiry as a coup "intended to take away the Power of the People, their VOTE, their Freedoms, their Second Amendment, Religion, Military, Border Wall, and their God-given rights as a Citizen of The United States of America!" In fact, a coup is usually

defined as a sudden, violent and illegal seizure of government power. The impeachment process is laid out in the U.S. Constitution.

Pompeo said the Democrats were trying to "intimidate" and "bully" the career officials into appearing and claimed it would be "not feasible" as demanded. House investigators countered that it would be illegal for the secretary to try to protect Trump by preventing the officials from talking to Congress.

Some Trump supporters cheered Pompeo's muscular response to the Democrats.

But it also complicated the secretary's own situation, coming the day after it was disclosed that he had listened in during Trump's July phone call with Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy that helped trigger the impeachment inquiry.

"Any effort to intimidate witnesses or prevent them from talking with Congress — including State Department employees — is illegal and will constitute evidence of obstruction of the impeachment inquiry," said three House chairmen, Adam Schiff of the intelligence committee, Eliot Engel of Foreign Affairs, and Elijah Cum-

Ex-Dallas officer who shot dead neighbor found guilty of murder

DALLAS (AP)—A white former Dallas police officer who shot her black unarmed neighbor to death after, she said, mistaking his apartment for her own was convicted



Guyger

of murder Tuesday in a verdict that prompted tears of relief from his family and chants of "black lives matter" from a crowd outside the courtroom.

The same jury that found Amber Guyger guilty in the September 2018 death of her upstairs neighbor, Botham Jean, will consider her fate after hearing additional testimony that started Tuesday afternoon. Her sentence could range from five years to life in prison under Texas law.

The jury took a matter of hours to convict Guyger, 31, after six days of testimony.

Cheers erupted in the courthouse as the verdict was announced, and someone yelled "Thank you, Jesus!" In the hallway outside the courtroom, a crowd celebrated and chanted "black lives matter." When the prosecutors walked into the hall, they broke into cheers.

After the verdict was read, Guyger sat alone, weeping, at the defense table.

Jean's friends and family later testified to explain how

his death has affected them. First on the stand was Allison Jean, who said her son was killed just before he was due to turn 27.

"My life has not been the same. It's just been like a roller coaster. I can't sleep, I cannot eat. It's just been the most terrible time for me," she said.

Botham Jean's sister, Alisa Findley, told the jury that she and her mother cry a lot, her formerly "bubbly" younger brother has retreated as if into a shell, and that her father is "not the same."

"It's like the light behind his eyes is off," Findley said.

She said her children are now afraid of police.

Prosecutors also submitted text messages [—] accepted as evidence over defense objections—that indicated Guyger lacks sensitivity toward black people. In one, she suggests participants at a Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade in Dallas could be persuaded to go home with the use of physical violence and pepper spray. In a message sent to Guyger's phone, the messenger suggests she would like a German shepherd because the dog is racist. Guyger declares that she hates "everything and everyone but y'all."

Gun control risks losing momentum as impeachment fever rises

LAS VEGAS (AP)—After back-to-back mass shootings in Ohio and Texas this summer, gun control burst back on the scene as a major political issue for Democrats. Now it risks taking a back seat as impeachment fever overtakes Washington.

Gun control advocates are determined to prevent that from happening.

Ten White House hopefuls will be in Las Vegas for a forum on gun policy on Wednesday — almost two years to the day after a gunman killed 58 people at a country music festival on the Las Vegas Strip in the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. The event is being hosted by MSNBC, March for Our Lives and Giffords, the advocacy organization set up by former Arizona congresswoman Gabby Giffords, who was shot and gravely wounded during a constituent meeting in 2011.

The forum is an effort to keep gun violence front and center of the debate and gives 2020 presidential candidates a chance to showcase their plans to combat the epidemic. Polls show that a majority of Americans favor stricter gun laws, while even more support specific proposals like universal background checks. But negotiations between President Donald Trump's administration and lawmakers have halted over background checks legislation, an effort that faced long odds even before the impeachment inquiry began.

"Impeachment sucks everything out of the room. Certainly it's the focus of Trump's attention," said Jack Citrin, a professor emeritus of political science at the University of California-Berkeley. "If you need to reach some kind of bipartisan agreement and one party is determined to throw the president out of office, rightly or wrong-

ly, it's a little hard to see how that builds the kind of goodwill that's necessary on this or any other issue."

Ariel Hobbs, a 21-year-old student organizer with March for Our Lives in Houston, said her group wants "to hear from the candidates that they are taking this seriously and they understand they can no longer ignore America's gun violence epidemic." She doesn't think the impeachment inquiry is a reason for lawmakers to stop their push for a bipartisan solution.

The 10 candidates slated to participate in the forum are former Vice President Joe Biden; New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker; South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg; former Obama Housing Secretary Julián Castro; California Sen. Kamala Harris; Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar; former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke; Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders; Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren;

and businessman Andrew Yang.

O'Rourke recast his campaign around gun control after the August shooting in his hometown of El Paso, Texas, where a gunman targeting Hispanics killed 22 people. One expert said he doesn't see a downside for O'Rourke or any of his fellow presidential candidates to talk about impeachment alongside other issues like gun control.

"If (O'Rourke) is pointing out that because of impeachment, the president has decided not to work at all on an issue that involves people's lives, he could make the argument if he wanted that this is itself an impeachable offense," said Michael Green, a history professor at the University of Las Vegas-Nevada focused on state and national politics. "If you are trying to get your base, your base probably does not mind the idea of impeachment."

Asia

India's moves in Kashmir raise tension in part next to China

By AIJAZ HUSSAIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEH, India (AP)—Nearly two months after the Indian government changed the status of the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, new tensions are brewing in Ladakh, a remote and picturesque part of that territory that borders China.

On Aug. 5, New Delhi stripped Indian-controlled Kashmir of its statehood and divided it into two centrally governed union territories — Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

India and Pakistan both

claim predominantly Muslim Kashmir, and the territory is divided between them, with insurgents battling Indian forces for three decades. Since the move eight weeks ago by India's Hindu-led government, it has flooded the region with additional troops that enforced a security crackdown and communication blockade.

Tensions also have existed for years in the Ladakh region in northeastern Kashmir, which is further divided administratively into the Leh district, which is predominantly Buddhist, and the Kar-

gil district, which is mostly Muslim. There also have been occasional border skirmishes between India and China.

On Oct. 31, New Delhi will formally take direct control of Ladakh, which is famous for its sparsely populated and stunning landscapes, Buddhist monks in mountaintop monasteries and elusive snow leopards prowling rugged terrain.

That move is raising fears about the future in both the Buddhist and Muslim communities, although so far the tension has been confined to cultural and political differ-

ences, without violence.

When the change in governmental status was announced for Ladakh, there were celebrations by its Buddhist population, which has been demanding separation from Kashmir since shortly after India achieved independence from British rule in 1947.

For decades, Buddhist leaders complained that Muslims controlled funds and jobs allotted by the central government. Those demands gathered momentum in the late 1980s when an insur-

gency against Indian rule broke out in Kashmir.

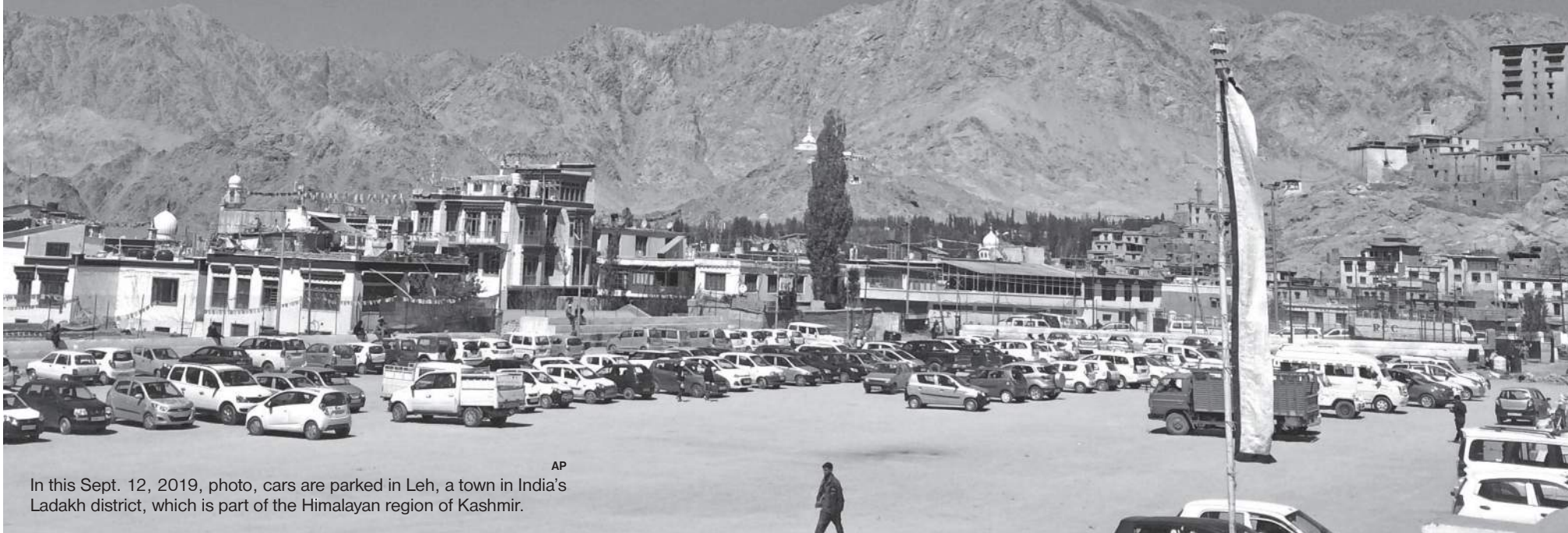
But the Buddhists' joy in August has given way to fears of land grabs, a loss of trade and damage to the fragile ecosystem of the region's high-altitude deserts.

Buddhist leaders in Leh also are wary of demographic change, as residents from elsewhere in majority-Hindu India seek to put down stakes in the sublime mountain landscape. In both districts, the Indian army maintains dozens of bases along the Pakistan and China frontiers.

"We celebrated for this, true. But we realize that with good things some bad things also come," said Sonam Dawa, general secretary of Ladakh Buddhist Association, which spearheaded a campaign for the territory to be directly controlled by New Delhi.

He vowed that the community would "not sell even an inch of land to any outsider."

"We want guarantees that our land, people and businesses are safe. We trust that central government will take measures to protect us on these accounts," Dawa said.



In this Sept. 12, 2019, photo, cars are parked in Leh, a town in India's Ladakh district, which is part of the Himalayan region of Kashmir.

HK police slammed as 'trigger-happy' after teen shot

HONG KONG (AP)—Heads bowed and dressed in black, schoolmates of a teenage demonstrator shot at close range in the chest by a Hong Kong riot officer condemned police tactics and demanded accountability Wednesday.

The shooting Tuesday during widespread anti-government demonstrations on China's National Day marked a fearsome escalation in Hong Kong's protest violence. The 18-year-old is the first known victim of police gunfire since the protests began in June. His condition in the hospital was described by the government as stable on Wednesday.

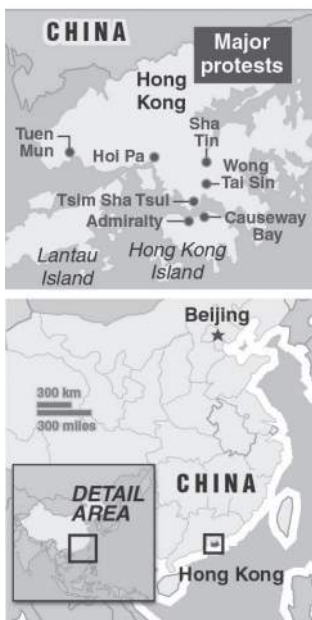
The officer fired as the protester struck him with a metal rod. His use of lethal weaponry is sure to inflame widespread public anger about police tactics during the crisis, widely condemned as heavy handed.

"The Hong Kong police have gone trigger-happy and nuts," pro-democracy lawmaker Claudia Mo said Wednesday.

Having repeatedly viewed video of the shooting, Mo said: "The sensible police response should have been using a police baton or pep-

Hong Kong protester shot

An activist involved in protests has been shot and injured in Hong Kong.



Sources: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Kong on Wednesday morning.

Sitting crossed-legged, some held an arm across their chest — the location of the teenager's gunshot wound. One held a hand-written message condemning "thug police."

"When we go to fight, we are always the egg and they are the wall," said a student who gave only his surname, Wong. "We are just bullied by them."

The police chief defended the officer's use of force. Commissioner Stephen Lo said late Tuesday night that the officer had feared for his life and made "a split-second" to fire with a single shot at close range.

"It was the attacker who decided to come so close," Lo said. "He had no choice, he could only use the weapon that he had available."

Lo said there is no order for police to shoot if they are under threat but they can use appropriate force. He described protesters as "rioters," saying they have committed widespread criminal acts — from attacking police officers, including 25 who were injured, to destroying public property and vandalizing shops and banks linked to China.

per spray, et cetera, to fight back. It wasn't exactly an extreme situation and the use of live bullet simply cannot be justified."

Several hundred people, including students, protested with quiet fury at the wounded demonstrator's school in the Tsuen Wan district of Hong

N. Korea fires missile days before resuming US talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea fired a ballistic missile from the sea on Wednesday, South Korea's military said, a suggestion that it may have tested an underwater-launched missile for the first time in three years ahead of a resumption of nuclear talks with the United States this weekend.

The North Korea missile flew about 450 kilometers (280 miles) at a maximum altitude of 910 kilometers (565 miles) after liftoff from an unspecified place in the waters off the North's eastern coastal town of Wonsan, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement. South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities were analyzing more details of the launch, it said.

Japan lodged an immediate protest against North Korea, saying the missile landed inside Japan's economic exclusive zone. If confirmed, it would be the first North Korean missile that has landed that close to Japan since November 2017.

South Korean military officials wouldn't officially disclose whether the missile

was fired from a submarine, a barge or another possible platform. But during an emergency National Security Council meeting, council members placed weight on the possibility that North Korea performed a submarine-launched missile test and expressed "strong concerns" over the North Korean move, according to South Korea's presidential office.

North Korea having the ability to launch missiles from submarines would be alarming because such weapons are harder to detect in advance. Some experts say the North is attempting to raise the stakes and ramp up pressure on the United States before their nuclear negotiators meet on Saturday.

"The North is trying not to convey a message that time is not on the side of the United States and that it could take a different path if the working-level talks don't go the way it wanted," said Du Hyeogn Cha, a visiting scholar at Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff statement said the weapon fired Tuesday is believed to be

a "Pukguksong-class" missile. It refers to a solid-fuel missile that North Korea tested-launched from an underwater test platform in 2016, with the hope that it could eventually be a part of its submarine weaponry. That missile flew 500 kilometers (310 miles), and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said at the time that his country had gained "perfect nuclear-attack capability."

North Korea has been trying to obtain the ability to fire ballistic missiles from submarines, though the tests needed for that appear to have been put off while it has been engaged in nuclear diplomacy with the United States since early last year.

When the North's news agency in July publicized photos of a newly built submarine and said its operational deployment "is near at hand," some outside experts said it was North Korea's biggest submarine with several launch tubes for missiles. An estimated 70 other submarines possessed by North Korea only have launch tubes for torpedoes, not missiles, according to the experts.

World

Peru thrown into constitutional crisis amid power struggle

LIMA, Peru (AP)—A struggle between Peru's president and congress over who will govern threatened to become a lengthy and destabilizing legal battle as each side dug in Tuesday amid the deepest constitutional crisis in nearly three decades, though one rival claimant to the presidency dropped out of the fight late in the day.

President Martín Vizcarra dissolved the opposition-controlled congress Monday and called new elections, saying the step was needed to uproot the nation's endemic corruption. Defiant opposition law-

makers voted to suspend him from office and moved to replace him with one of Peru's vice presidents who recently broke ranks.

But Mercedes Aráoz late Tuesday resigned the post proclaimed for her by lawmakers, and urged Vizcarra to hold elections "in the shortest term."

Earlier in the day, the military and governors stood by Vizcarra, while several private business coalitions said they would back Aráoz. There was no immediate comment from the two sides in the confrontation on Aráoz's decision.

The 35-member Organization of American States urged Peru's Constitutional Tribunal to weigh in on the feud as both sides accused the other of abusing power and jeopardizing the nation's stability.

"It seems we are facing a protracted political crisis, with the dispute potentially ending up before courts," said Maria Luisa Puig, an analyst for the Eurasia Group consultancy.

Peruvians appeared overwhelmingly in favor of Vizcarra's decision, but the events nonetheless could threaten to fuel social unrest. Vizcarra is likely to continue governing as president while any challenge from the opposition works its way through court. He has already called for new legislative elections in early 2020.

But if congress should prevail, lawmakers would be entitled to stay in their posts until 2021, calling off Vizcarra's elections and likely moving to impeach him, all acts that could irritate an already angry public with little to no faith in elected leaders.

Teresa Tintaya was among a handful of protesters outside congress Tuesday yelling phrases like, "Garbage congress, the people hate you!"

"President Vizcarra is a brave man," she said.

Even before the turmoil, the nation was already on shaky political ground. Nearly every living former president has been ensnared in the mammoth Odebrecht corruption scandal, in which the Brazilian construction

heavyweight admitted to funneling money to politicians around Latin America in exchange for handsome public works contracts.

Lower-ranking but still powerful judges, lawmakers and businessmen have been caught on wiretaps negotiating backroom deals, leading many Peruvians to conclude that no branch of their country's turbulent government can be trusted.

Vizcarra rose to power last year after President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski resigned in relation to the Odebrecht probe and made defeating corruption his signature drive. He has succeeded where his predecessor failed in gaining the public's support, but repeatedly clashed with congress ruled

by opposition leader Keiko Fujimori's party.

Under Peru's law, Vizcarra is entitled to dissolve congress if it rejects two votes of confidence in his administration. Whether or not two such votes have taken place is at the crux of the conflict between the executive and legislative branches.

Vizcarra contends a rejection vote during Kuczynski's administration counts as the first because he is continuing his predecessor's mandate. He argues that the second happened Monday when lawmakers proceeded with a vote to select new Constitutional Tribunal magistrates, defying his warning that he would interpret it as a vote against confidence.

WORLD BRIEFS

25 dead after extremists attack army camps in central Mali

BAMAKO, Mali (AP)—Al-Qaida-linked groups attacked two army bases in central Mali, killing at least 25 people and leaving 60 missing, Mali's government said Tuesday. Assailants rode into the community of Boulikessi with heavy weaponry overnight Sunday to Monday to attack a Malian battalion of the regional G5 Sahel Force, said a force commander, Niger Gen. Oumarou Namatou Gazama. He blamed "the terrorist group" Ansarul Islam. Mali's government said that after exchanges of gunfire, the army had retaken Boulikessi, killing at least 15 extremists and destroying five of their vehicles. It said a joint force with Burkina Faso soldiers was pursuing the extremists behind the attacks. The attack on the camp caused "heavy equipment losses and major damage," Malian government spokesman Yaya Sangaré said earlier in a statement.

Thousands march as Catalonia marks secession vote date

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Thousands of supporters of the secession of Catalonia from the rest of Spain marched in Barcelona on Tuesday to mark two years since a banned independence referendum that shook Spanish politics and set off the nation's worst institutional crisis in decades. More rallies were held in towns across northeastern Catalonia region of 7.5 million people, where separatist sentiment has been on the rise for nearly a decade. They are being watched by all sides as a sign of the in-

dependence movement's strength and its capacity to keep its more radical elements from tarnishing its reputation of peaceful struggle. The demonstration in Barcelona departed from a central square and toured some of the schools that were stormed by riot police two years ago when they were turned into polling stations for the illegal vote. Many carried pro-independence flags and shouted "Not forgotten, not forgiven!" — a reference to the clashes between voters and police during the referendum.

Hurricane Lorenzo to bring 70-foot waves to Azores

LISBON, Portugal (AP)—A hurricane packing a punch rarely witnessed in the mid-Atlantic Ocean is bearing down on the Azores Islands, placing emergency services on red alert for waves that could reach eight stories high, winds that could flatten homes and heavy rains that could turn into torrents on steep mountains. The Category 2 Hurricane Lorenzo is expected to hit the Portuguese islands Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. Waves up to 22 meters (72 feet) high and hurricane wind gusts over 200 kilometers mph (124 mph) are forecast for some islands. The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami issued hurricane warnings for seven of the Azores' nine volcanic islands and a tropical storm warning for the other two. The remote islands are home to about 250,000 people. Lorenzo was previously a Category 5 hurricane, the strongest storm ever observed so far north and east in the Atlantic basin. It is already producing huge seas over the North Atlantic, according to the hurricane center.



Police stand guard outside the government palace in Lima, Peru, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

AP

Britain expresses 'regret' for killing Maori 250 years ago

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The British government on Wednesday expressed "regret" that British explorers killed some of the first indigenous Maori they met 250 years ago, but stopped short of issuing a full apology.

British High Commissioner Laura Clarke met with Maori tribal leaders in the town of Gisborne as New Zealand marked the anniversary of Captain James Cook and the crew of his ship Endeavour arriving in 1769.

Clarke's words held historic significance but fell short of the full apology that some had sought from the British royal family.

Soon after Cook and his crew arrived, the sailors feared

they were under attack after encountering Maori armed with weapons. But many scholars now believe Maori were likely only issuing a ceremonial challenge.

The sailors shot and killed an important leader, Te Maro, and over the following days killed eight more Maori before a Tahitian priest managed to mediate between the sides.

The British High Commissioner said the exact wording of Clarke's speech to Maori leaders would remain private, but that she would acknowledge the pain of those first encounters and extend her sympathy to the descendants of those killed.

Britain has also been returning some historic artifacts taken by Cook's crew, including

canoe paddles.

In a Facebook video, the Maori "iwi" or tribe Rongowhakaata described that first encounter in blunt terms: "After only being here for two hours, Cook and his crew had trespassed, terrorized, killed and stolen from us," a narrator says.

The high commission was careful to point out that Wednesday's expression of regret came from the British government and not from the British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II.

Maori are involved in a decades-long legal process seeking redress for historic wrongs under New Zealand's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi. That 1840 document was signed on the British side by emissaries of

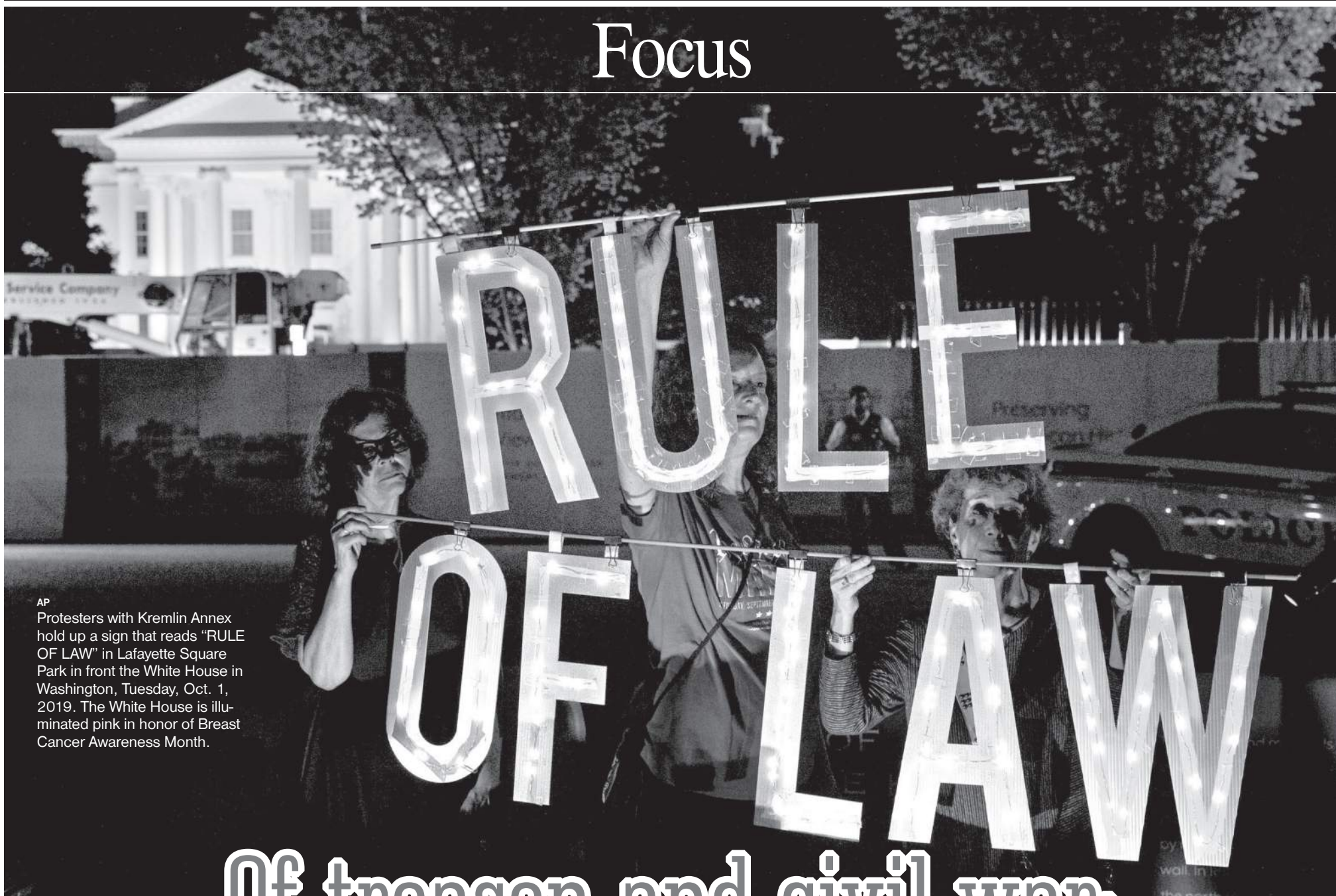
Queen Victoria. Dozens of tribes have made settlements worth billions of dollars under the treaty's provisions.

New Zealand's Race Relations Commissioner and former Gisborne Mayor Meng Foon said Clarke's words were another part of the reconciliation and relationship-building process. However, he said that as Gisborne mayor he had invited the British royal family to come to Wednesday's event but received no response.

He said he'd like to have descendants of Queen Victoria meet with descendants of the Maori who were killed and offer them a full apology.

"It's not the end of the story," he said of Clarke's speech. "I believe future generations will demand an apology."

Focus



AP
Protesters with Kremlin Annex hold up a sign that reads "RULE OF LAW" in Lafayette Square Park in front the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019. The White House is illuminated pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Of treason and civil war: An agitated Trump amps up threats

By LAURIE KELLMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump, never one for understatement, is leaning into his threats as impeachment pressure mounts.

On Monday, he suggested Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff was guilty of treason. But the Constitution is clear that treason is not the same as disloyalty. And an agitated Trump was very publicly blurring the two as he tweeted against his critics and the House impeachment push.

Trump also suggested that any effort to oust him could lead to civil war, part of a weekend barrage of tweets that offered a window into his raw emotions.

Trump was anything but subtle in taking on Schiff, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee and a long-time nemesis.

"Arrest for Treason?" Trump tweeted of the California Democrat. It was Trump's latest objection to Schiff's summation of a rough transcript in which the

president on July 25 pressured Ukraine's leader to investigate Joe Biden's son.

A day earlier, Trump had groused: "I want Schiff questioned at the highest level for Fraud & Treason."

Even presidents don't always get what they want, by design.

It's a bitter truth for the former real estate magnate who controlled much of his world before the presidency put him face-to-face with equivalent branches of government.

Trump has reacted by second-guessing critics and the Constitution, stonewalling information requests and venting against the government machine he calls "the deep state."

The intensity of Trump's tweets has been rising in tandem with a notable shift in public sentiment toward impeachment.

Polls conducted since the details of the Ukraine call went public show division over whether Trump should be impeached and removed from office, with support for impeachment growing significantly since the House



AP
The entrance to a secure facility used by the House Intelligence Committee is seen in the Capitol as House Democrats prepare for depositions in the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.

launched the inquiry Sept. 24. Trump went full-tilt.

Asked Monday whether he knows the identity of the whistleblower, he replied, "We're trying to find out," even though the person is protected by the Whistleblower Protection Act.

Earlier in the day, the president tweeted a comment by a conservative pastor that drew swift rebuke from a Republican member of Congress.

The president posted this

comment from Rev. Robert Jeffress, pastor of the Southern Baptist megachurch First Baptist Dallas: "If the Democrats are successful in removing the president from office, it will cause a civil war like fracture in this nation from which our country will never heal."

Republican Rep. Adam Kinzinger, a former Air Force pilot who represents an Illinois district Trump won in 2016, tweeted in response: "I have visited nations ravaged

by civil war. ... I have never imagined such a quote to be repeated by a President. This is beyond repugnant."

Trump has long saved the threat of treason for special perceived offenders, some that have never been proven to exist. "My Campaign for President was conclusively spied on," Trump falsely tweeted on May 17. "Nothing like this has ever happened in American Politics. A really bad situation. TREASON means long jail sentences, and this was TREASON!"

It wouldn't be, even if it really had happened.

Likewise, Trump aimed his fury at the still-anonymous op-ed author who wrote in The New York Times just over a year ago that "many of the senior officials in his own administration are working diligently from within to frustrate parts of his agenda and his worst inclinations." The writer described the president's decision-making as "half-baked, ill-informed and occasionally reckless."

"TREASON?" the president tweeted the same day, Sept. 5

Embarrassing, certainly, but not treason.

The Constitution states, "Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort."

Note the word "only."

Treason occurs when a U.S. citizen, or a non-citizen on U.S. territory, wages war against the country or provides material support — not just sympathy — to a declared enemy of the United States. The wording was derived from England's treason statutes. In the United States, the executive branch can only bring charges in extremely limited cases.

Even gargantuan betrayals have not been deemed treason. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were executed for giving atomic secrets to Russia during the Cold War, were charged with espionage.

Also not treasonous: the FBI official known as Deep Throat who undermined Richard Nixon's presidency with his Watergate revelations.

Environment

Youth climate movement puts ethics at the center of the global debate

THE CONVERSATION

Even if you've never heard of Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old Swedish environmentalist who crossed the Atlantic on a sailboat to attend a Sept. 23 United Nations summit on the climate, you may have seen the student-led Global Climate Strike she helped inspire on Friday, Sept. 20.

People in all 50 U.S. states and more than 150 countries, from Germany to Australia, took to the streets to "to declare a climate emergency" the organizers said, and show politicians what "action in line with climate science and justice means."

The strike was galvanized by a global youth movement, whose Friday school walk-outs over the last year were themselves inspired by Thunberg's own three-week strike in August 2018 to demand climate action by the Swedish parliament.

People of all ages joined the global protest, though adults – with their environmental organizations, climate negotiations and election campaigns – took a little longer to get on board. The Union of Concerned Scientists published an "Adult's Guide" to the climate strike to help parents of participants get up to speed.

But the kids are clearly leading on climate change – and they're changing the way we talk about this global challenge, putting ethics at the center of the debate.

Climate change is an ethical problem

Economic assessments of climate change, such as cost-benefit analysis, have for years helped justify political procrastination. By discounting the importance of anticipated harms to people in the future, policymakers can argue that taking actions to address climate change today are too costly.

Short-term thinking by today's "grown-ups" ignores her generation, Thunberg says.

"When you think about the future today, you don't think beyond the year 2050," she said in a 2018 TED talk. "What we do or don't do right now will affect my entire life and the lives of my children and grandchildren."

Youth climate activists argue that "our house is on fire" and insist that world leaders act accordingly. They are attuned to the ecological consequences, intergenerational implications and international unfairness of climate change for all people living today.

Scholars in my field of environmental ethics have been writing about climate justice for decades. The arguments vary, but a key conclusion is that the burdens of responding to climate change should be divided equitably – not borne primarily by the poor.

This notion of "common, but differentiated responsibilities" is a fundamental principle of equity outlined in the 1992 United Nations climate change treaty, which laid the groundwork for the many international climate negotiations that have occurred since.

Philosophers like Henry Shue have laid out the reasons that wealthy countries like the United States are morally bound not just to significantly cut their own carbon emissions but also help other countries adapt to a changing climate. That includes contributing financially to the development of climate-friendly energy sources that meet the pressing and near-term basic needs of developing countries.

Historically, wealthy countries have contributed the most and benefited the most from fossil fuel emissions. These same countries have the greatest financial, technological and institutional capacity to shift away from fossil fuels.

Meanwhile, poor countries are often most vulnerable to climate impacts like rising seas, more intense storms and eroding coastlines.

For these reasons, many environmental ethicists hold, wealthy high-emitting countries should lead the way on mitigation and finance international climate adaption. Some even argue that rich countries should compensate affected countries for the climate loss and damage.

Practical, not ethical

Political leaders tend to dodge questions of ethics in their policymaking and global debates on climate change.

According to Stephen Gardiner, a philosopher at University of Washington, climate policy often focuses on "practical" considerations like efficiency or political feasibility.

U.S. climate negotiators in particular have for decades pushed back against ethically grounded differentiated responsibilities and resisted top down mandatory emissions cuts, seeking a more politically palatable option: Voluntary emissions cuts determined by each country.

And some legal scholars say a climate policy based not on ethics but on self-in-

terest might be more effective.

University of Chicago law professors Eric Posner and David Weisbach have gone so far as to suggest, on efficiency grounds, that developing nations should pay wealthy countries to emit less, since poorer and more vulnerable nations have



Thunberg

more to lose as a result of the climate crisis.

The kids aren't buying it

Young activists like Greta Thunberg are reversing the marginalization of ethics from climate conversations.

With their focus on challenging "systematic power

and inequity" and respect and reciprocity, they recognize that virtually all decisions about how to respond to climate change are value judgments.

That includes inaction. The status quo – a fossil fuel-dominated energy economy – is making the rich richer and the poor poorer. Sticking with business as usual, the argument goes, places more importance on near-term ben-

efits enjoyed by some than on the longer-term consequences many will suffer.

Polls show the youth are concerned and engaged. Youth activists are explicitly calling attention to the harm climate change is causing now and the harm it threatens for the future – and demanding action. And they are working internationally, in a global movement of solidarity.

THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY

WE, THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

† *Rosa Cruz San Nicolas Norita*



Would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate our dearly beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily mass of intentions will be celebrated starting Friday, October 4 through Saturday, October 12, 2019 at 6:00 am at Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa. Nightly Rosary will be at the prayed at 7:00 pm at the family residence in Chalan Kanoa District 3.

Please join us in prayers.

*Nicanor "Nick" Flores Norita,
Children and Family*



Life & Style

By AMY KAUFMAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Even as she was reporting it, Jessica Pressler had the sense that her story about a group of strip-pers-turned-criminals was the stuff movies are made of. The New York Magazine article had just the kind of juicy plot elements that Hollywood clamors for: Pole dancing! Illegal drugs! Wall Street suits brought down by their own greed!

So the instant her piece was published in December 2015, she sent it to filmmaker Adam McKay. Pressler had interviewed the director while he was making “The Big Short,” a film about how the collapse of the housing bubble led to 2007 financial crisis. Her latest report, about how adult entertainment dancers stayed afloat during that same financial downturn by stealing money from their wealthy male clients, shared similar themes.

Pressler’s instinct was correct: McKay bit, and his company ended up producing STX’s “Hustlers,” a movie based on the writer’s piece “The Hustlers at Scores.” But what she hadn’t counted on was the fact that she herself would be part of the big-screen adaptation.

Sure, she understood the cinematic allure of her two

FROM ‘HUSTLERS’ TO
‘BEAUTIFUL DAY IN
THE NEIGHBORHOOD’

Journalists become fall film stars

Jennifer Lopez and Julia Stiles attend the “Hustlers” premiere during the 2019 Toronto International Film Festival at Roy Thomson Hall on September 07, 2019 in Toronto, Canada.

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES FOR TIFF/TNS



main interview subjects—audacious, designer-clad strip-pers ultimately played by Jennifer Lopez and Constance Wu—but was a magazine writer with a voice recorder really all that exciting?

Apparently, yes. Because not only was Julia Stiles cast to play a version of Pressler in “Hustlers”—which has already grossed in excess of \$80 million after three weekends in theaters—but a handful of films at the recent Toronto International Film Festival gave

journalists the same treatment.

In “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” Matthew Rhys stars as an Esquire journalist who is assigned to profile Mister Rogers (Tom Hanks). The movie, which Sony Pictures will open on Nov. 22, is adapted from Tom Junod’s 1998 Esquire piece “Can You Say ... Hero?” Though the writer set out to learn about the children’s television personality, he eventually turned self-reflective as a result of Rogers’ inquiries.

There’s also “The Friend,” a dark comedy in which Casey Affleck stars as a Louisiana-based journalist whose wife (Dakota Johnson) is diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer. The couple’s mutual best friend (Jason Segel) moves into their home to help care for the family and their two daughters. The story was the subject of a 2015 Esquire essay written by Matthew Teague shortly after his wife succumbed to cancer. (The film, which was seeking dis-

tribution in Toronto, does not yet have a release date.)

Pressler: Right when my article came out, I sent it to Adam McKay. I wasn’t thinking of him optioning it, but I thought he would enjoy this story because it was about economics. I did meet with other people about optioning it. I have a memory of an agent saying “Jessica Chastain! Jennifer Lawrence!” All these typical, L.A. things. But Adam wrote back and CCed Jessica Elbaum, who he started [the production company] Gloria Sanchez with. He was like, “This is a crazy story. We should develop this.” And then we met a week or two later, when I happened to be in L.A.

interviewing Kerry Washington or something. Jessica was very passionate about it.

I didn’t think I would write the screenplay. My impression was if some amateur journalist tried to write a screenplay, it can hold things up. I said, “If no one wants to write it, I’ll write it.” But you hear horror stories. Nobody wants somebody who has never written a screenplay before being like, “I insist!” I wanted to get it done.

Junod: I wrote the article in 1998, but I only heard from people wanting to option it at the end of 2015. They were working on a version of the script based on another journalist’s book—Tim Madigan’s “I’m Proud of You.” I’m not the only journalist who had a positive experience with Fred [Rogers]. But there was a complication with the estate, and that’s when [Fred’s widow] Joanne Rogers recommended my story. I couldn’t have been more surprised. It seemed safely tucked in the past. So I went to L.A. in December 2015 and spent time with the screenwriters. We talked for two days, pretty much exclusively about my life.

Teague: I heard from people wanting to option the story more or less right away. Whenever you have something that’s decent that gets out, there’s always a little wave of interest from production companies. But it’s hard to tell what’s real. I have had other things that have been optioned, but I haven’t been pleased with the outcome. And this was so intensely personal that I wanted to write it myself.

Meghan sues British tabloid over personal letter

LONDON (AP)—British royal Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, has sued a tabloid newspaper that she claims illegally published a personal letter she wrote to her father.

The civil lawsuit accuses the Mail on Sunday of copyright infringement, misuse of private information and violating the U.K.’s data protection law with the “intrusive” publication of the letter, a spokeswoman for Schillings, the law firm handling the case, said.

Prince Harry accused the Mail on Sunday of editing the letter in “an intentionally destructive manner” to “manipulate” readers with an un-

flattering portrayal of his wife, who was the American actress known as Meghan Markle before the couple married in May 2018.

In a long statement lambasting British tabloids more broadly, Harry said the lawsuit had “been many months in the making” following a “ruthless campaign” to smear Meghan by a “press pack that has vilified her almost daily” and created “lie after lie at her expense” during her maternity leave.

“I have been a silent witness to her private suffering for too long. To stand back and do nothing would be contrary to everything we believe in,”

the prince said in the statement posted on the couple’s royal website.

“There is a human cost to this relentless propaganda, specifically when it is knowingly false and malicious, and though we have continued to put on a brave face - as so many of you can relate to - I cannot begin to describe how painful it has been,” Harry said.

A Mail on Sunday spokesman told Britain’s Press Association the paper “stands by the story it published and will be defending this case vigorously.

“Specifically, we categorically deny that the duchess’s

letter was edited in any way that changed its meaning,” the spokesman said.

Harry has lashed out at British celebrity news coverage before. He lashed out at aggressive paparazzi that stalked Meghan’s every move when they were dating and offensive treatment of her biracial heritage by some media.

In Tuesday’s statement, he mentioned his late mother, Princess Diana, who died in an August 1997 car crash while being pursued by paparazzi, as the reason he knew the move to take a tabloid to court “may not be the safe one, it is the right one..

Eddie Murphy, off the couch, is rejuvenated by ‘Dolemite’

TORONTO (AP)—Eddie Murphy is very fond of his couch.

He talks about it a lot. It’s where, according to Murphy, he’s spent much of his last few years, in a happy retreat from the public eye. He’s a natural homebody, content to stick close to his Los Angeles home with his family (he has 10 kids) around him. One of the funniest, most electric comedians ever—the leather-suited dynamo of “Delirious,” the street-wise rebel of “Beverly Hills Cop”—just lounging.

But after a decade of relative relaxation—a time of half-hearted comebacks, movies that fizzled and occasional music projects—Murphy is back. He is—and this is big

news—feeling it again, decades after he last performed stand-up.

“When I’m being funny, there’s this spirit that comes up,” Murphy says. “That spirit comes up in me a lot now. Stuff’s just been coming out of me like it used to. This movie

has got my spirit up. This movie got me off the couch.”

The movie is “Dolemite Is My Name,” which opens in theaters Friday and arrives on Netflix Oct. 25.

In it, Murphy plays Rudy Ray Moore, the iconic comic performer whose pimp persona, Dolemite, spawned a long-running stage show, a series of profane comedy records and the shambling 1975 classic Blaxploitation film “Dolemite.”



Murphy

After overseas triumphs, soprano returns to Met Opera

NEW YORK (AP)—With more than 100 appearances under her belt, soprano Lisette Oropesa wasn’t exactly a stranger at the Metropolitan Opera. But until this season she hadn’t truly arrived.

In fact, she had recently all but vanished, performing only once in the past five seasons—as the little girl in Humpdinck’s fairy-tale opera “Han-

sel and Gretel.” Now she’s back in two very grown-up roles, headlining a revival of Massenet’s “Manon” as the fortune-hunting heroine and also cast as the tubercular courtesan Violetta in Verdi’s “La Traviata.”

And critics are hailing her return. Joshua Barone said in The New York Times of her Manon that “with a voice by turns brightly crystalline

and arrestingly powerful, she persuasively inhabits the role of this chameleon coquette.” And Eric C. Simpson in the New York Classical Review blog wrote that Oropesa “confirmed she is fully ready for leading roles at the Met.”

What’s more, she’s just won two of the biggest prizes in American opera: the Richard Tucker Award given by

the music foundation that bears the late tenor’s name and the Beverly Sills Award bestowed by the Met.

“People always think, ‘Oh suddenly you became a big star,’” said Oropesa, who is about to turn 36, in an interview after a rehearsal for “Manon.” “Actually it takes 10 years of building relationships and one gig and then the next gig.”

'Stranger Things' gets a fourth season; Duffer brothers get a big Netflix deal

It's happening: "Stranger Things" is getting a fourth season to chronicle the sci-fi exploits of Eleven and her crew — and further heighten your sense of 1980s nostalgia.

Netflix on Monday announced its flagship series' renewal with a teaser clip showcasing a spooky "Stranger Things 4" logo and the ominous declaration that "We're not in Hawkins anymore." The development also came with word that the streaming giant had signed the series' creators and showrunners, Matt and Ross Duffer, to a multiyear film and series overall deal, all but ensuring the creation of new worlds outside of Indiana and its all-consuming Upside Down.

"The Duffer Brothers have captivated viewers around the world with 'Stranger Things' and we're thrilled to expand our relationship with them to bring their vivid imaginations to other film and series projects our members will love," the streamer's chief content officer, Ted Sarandos, said in a statement. "We can't wait to see what the Duffer Brothers have in store when they step outside the world of the Upside Down."

The Duffers thanked Sarandos and the Netflix team for taking a chance on them and their show and forever changing their lives.

"From our first pitch meeting to the release of 'Stranger Things 3,' the entire team at Netflix has been nothing short of sensational, providing us with the kind of support, guidance and creative freedom we always dreamed about," they said in a statement. "We can't wait to tell many more stories together — beginning, of course, with a return trip to Hawkins!"

'You're good-looking': Ukraine's leader woos Tom Cruise

'You're good-looking': Ukraine's leader woos Tom Cruise (AP)—Ukraine's leader isn't just trying to charm U.S. President Donald Trump—he's set his sights now on Tom Cruise, too.

Mission impossible? Maybe not—Cruise is studying possible Ukrainian locations for an upcoming film, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's office.

Zelenskyy tapped his roots as a TV and film comedian when hosting Cruise in the Ukrainian presidential headquarters Monday night.

As Cruise walked in, he said "You're good-looking!" according to video excerpts released Tuesday by his office. The Hollywood star laughed and said "it pays the bills."

Zelenskyy joked about how exhausting it is to be president,



AP
Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and American actor, film director and producer Tom Cruise talk to each other during their meeting in Kyiv, Ukraine, late Monday, Sept. 30, 2019.

and mentioned the stalled peace process for conflict-rav-

aged eastern Ukraine.

The video excerpts in-

cluded no mention of Trump or the U.S. impeachment in-

quiry in which Ukraine plays a starring role.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

R. Kelly complains of girlfriends' lack of joint access

CHICAGO (AP)—R. Kelly's lawyers want the judge in the singer's New York federal case to reconsider and grant him bond, saying the hardships of being jailed include being able to see just one of two previous live-in girlfriends at a time. The Chicago Tribune reports the request was filed Monday in New York, where Kelly is charged in a racketeering scheme to sexually abuse girls. Kelly is detained in Chicago, where he faces similar charges. Even if the New York judge grants bond, Kelly must get the Chicago judge to agree to bond before he could be released. Monday's motion complained that only one person unrelated to Kelly can visit him at a time over 90

days, so just one of the two young women who lived with him before he was jailed can visit during that period.

Ready for some hockey? Green Day song may be new NHL anthem

The NHL could be on the way to its version of "Are You Ready For Some Football?" The league is announcing a two-year partnership with Green Day that includes an opening song for NBC Sports' "Wednesday Night Hockey." The song, "Ready, Fire, Aim" isn't custom-made for the NHL and will be on Green Day's next album, though it's likely a matter of time until Green Day or another band follows what Hank Williams Jr. and later Carrie Underwood did for the NFL. "That I think will probably

be the evolution," NHL chief content officer and executive Vice President Steve Mayer said. "If you look at our season and how many times this thing is going to be on, it'll become an anthem. The song, we're using slap shots, it's about scoring and speed—"Fire, Ready, Aim"—I think people will start associating this." Green Day's open will debut Oct. 9. The band will also perform at the All-Star Game in St. Louis in late January, and new singles from its album will be released on "Wednesday Night Hockey." "We're going to try some bold thing," Mayer said. "The performance that we're talking about at All-Star will be epic." Green Day songs will be incorporated into arena mixes around the NHL and provide the soundtrack for much of the season on NBC

Sports Network and NBC. "We think it fits really well with hockey," NBC Sports executive producer Sam Flood said. "The song and the way it's executed is really fun." Fourteen of the band's upcoming tour stops will come in NHL markets, including Seattle, which will join the league in 2021. "Green Day, just the energy, how they have this great history but they keep on sort of reinventing themselves, they just work for us," Mayer said. "Their music is going to be part of a lot of what we're doing."

Cambridge Analytica whistleblower has book out next week

NEW YORK (AP)—The whistleblower at Cambridge Analytica, the data-mining firm linked to using social

media for targeted political ads, has a book deal. Christopher Wylie's "Mindf(asterisk)ck: Cambridge Analytica and the Plot to Break America" will be published Oct. 8. Random House announced Monday. Wylie is a former research director at Cambridge who alleged the company had illegally accessed data of millions of Facebook users that was used to support the election of Donald Trump. Cambridge was founded by such conservative power brokers as billionaire Robert Mercer and former White House aide Steve Bannon. Wylie's allegations have led to investigations and hearings in the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Random House is calling Wylie's book "both exposé and dire warning" about how online information can be used to manipulate people.

Gal pal enroaches on man's relationship with girlfriend

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been together for nearly a year. He has several female friends I have met and like very much. However, one of them texts him every day, even while we are together. She also sends Facebook messages and sometimes calls him at work. Sometimes she "drops in" at his home.

Abby, this woman is married with a family of her own, but she seems to be obsessed with my boyfriend. I have expressed my concern about her behavior and told my boyfriend that while I trust him completely, I feel she is overly emotionally attached to him, and what she's doing is disrespectful to our relationship as well as the one she has with her husband and family. He just continues to repeat that there is nothing going on. How can I make him understand that they can still be friends, but he needs to set some boundaries?

FED UP IN NEW YORK

DEAR FED UP: Your boyfriend is allowed to be friends with anyone he wishes. However, because you think the attention he's receiving from this woman infringes on your time with him, you should say that to him. If you do, perhaps he may tell her to tone it down.

DEAR ABBY: I volunteer at a county no-kill animal shelter. I love doing the work and helping people find a pet that's right for them, if I can.

Every week, people come in looking for a lost pet. "What did he look like?" "How old was she?" And then the burning question, "Was your pet microchipped?" Often—too often—the answer is "No."

Please remind your readers that if they care about Buddy or Fluffy and love them and consider them family, to PLEASE have them microchipped. Any veterinarian's office can do it. A county shelter can do it, too. It's not expensive. It will give people a much better chance of having their friend returned, even if they are far away.

ANIMAL LOVER IN UTAH

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: I'm glad you wrote. I hope my animal-guardian readers will heed your advice. Furry family members are sometimes stolen, and they often like to roam when they see an opportunity. If pets are microchipped, it increases the odds of them being recovered.

DEAR ABBY: Can you please explain the guidelines for reciprocating invitations? We have invited the "Smiths" to our home three times. Each time they said they were busy and would be for several weeks, so we stopped extending invitations. Then they had us over, and we had a really good time. This week I tried to reciprocate and, again, they are busy. Should I keep trying? Or is this a signal that the Smiths don't

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



want to come to us for whatever reason?

GOOD TIMES IN CALIFORNIA

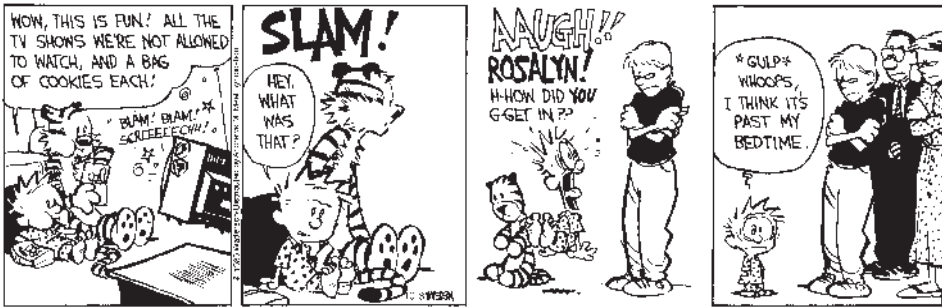
DEAR GOOD TIMES: No rule of etiquette requires you to continue trying to coax this couple to your home. After three refusals, it's reasonable to conclude that—for whatever reason—they prefer to do the entertaining. While some might regard their refusals as a snub, I don't think you should because they did reach out and invite you over. Because you feel obligated, try inviting them out to dinner, and see if that brings better results.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



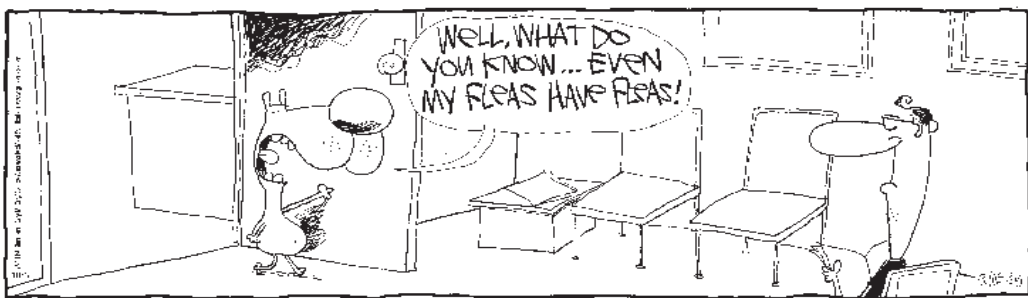
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pace
5 Hotel worker
9 Charlotte's creation
12 Cookbook author
13 Words to Brutus
14 Flamenco cry
15 First day on the job
17 Predetermine
18 Musical speeds
19 Moppets
21 Hosp. drip
22 Capital of South Korea
24 Joan of rock
27 Group of seals
28 Prepare to travel
31 To and —
32 "Awesome, dudel!"
33 — kwon do
34 Iodine source
36 Wall climber

DOWN

1 Heart of the matter
2 Jocular Johnson
3 Mosque leader
4 La Brea attraction
5 Pills, in slang
6 One-time link
7 Hairly Addams cousin
8 Because of
9 Put in overtime
10 Author Wiesel
11 Pleads
16 "Mazel —!"
20 "Uh-huh"
22 Italian wine
23 Vortex
24 NYC airport
25 Before
26 Turnpike payment area
27 Bluenose
29 Cornfield noise
30 Docu-mentarian
35 Architect I. M. —
37 Stints at the factory
39 Rehab process
40 PC key
41 Iowa city
42 Christen
43 Pinnacle
44 Hammer's target
45 French 101 verb
46 Feeder filler
49 Flow out
50 Cattle call

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-3

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seann William Scott, 43; Neve Campbell, 46; Gwen Stefani, 50; Chubby Checker, 78.

Happy Birthday: Change begins within. If you don't like something, consider how to make it better. This is a year of progress, but it will take initiative on your part to work toward a brighter future. It's time to put your plans in place and refuse to let anyone manipulate you into putting his or her needs first. Your numbers are 9, 13, 20, 26, 32, 38, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Open your mind and take in all the information being offered. Being well-versed will help you deal with both personal and professional relationships that can be difficult. Knowledge is power, and it will protect you from being dominated by others. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do what matters most to you. Set up rules, and stick to your plan. Change happens when you are serious about the end result and you do the work yourself. Don't let anyone interfere with your ideas or your life. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of matters personally. Use your energy to complete unfinished business. The more you do, the less you say and the stricter you are with your cash, the better the outcome. Don't give in to someone's persuasive tactics. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Listen to your intellect, be practical and get the facts before you make a permanent change. Don't let your physical or emotional

desire turn into a costly mistake. Someone will promise you one thing and end up giving you something else. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Explore what life has to offer. Get involved in pastimes that interest you, and you'll make some new friends. Use your physical and mental abilities to get things done your way, and you'll stand out as a leader, not a follower. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make a change to your daily routine. Do something that will spark your imagination or bring you in contact with people who inspire you to follow your dreams. Say no to temptation or to those trying to influence you to undertake bad habits. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to let someone change your plans. Express the way you feel, and make it clear what you want. If you settle for less, you will be disappointed in yourself for giving in to someone who is trying to control you. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let uncertainty take over. Do your research, consider what's important to you and bring about the change that will encourage peace of mind and greater joy. It's up to you to make things happen. Look, see and do. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your generosity and openness will make you vulnerable to people who are deceptive and eager to take advantage of you. Be careful who you associate with, and don't let sweet talk and compliments manipulate you into doing something you shouldn't do. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your personal affairs a secret. Someone will be happy to spread rumors about you if you give them ammunition to do so. Focus on getting your business in order, not disrupting what you've taken so long to build. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look for a good deal, negotiate your position, and make the most with what you have. Change doesn't have to be big to be good. The subtle adjustments you make will end up having the most significant impact. Romance looks promising. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone's bluster will throw you off guard if you aren't careful. You may have to make a slight adjustment to avoid someone taking over or costing you the chance to advance. Stick to basics, and live up to your word. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, reticent and secretive. You are fashionable and respected.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PIAGET WATCHES Solution: 6 letters

W E E O L O P R E C I O U S E
I R L N T E S X Y N O C C Y N
N N I O O H R I N G I E N I
D T N S C Z I A P G T R N L F
I O R O T O E N A A E K T A C
N U O A V W T M M G L C N C O
G R L F D A A O I M P O O I L
B B I A F N T I R T H L M N L
L I M A U E I C P A C E A E
A L E A A D C L O H S K H H C
C L L U X U R Y A N E S C C T
K O I E R B I L A C E E I E I
T N G E M S T O N E S D R M O
I L H I G H P R E C I S I O N
E Y T I V I T A E R C F L E S

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Yesterday's Answer: Deep Tissue

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DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
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Soto lifts Nats to comeback win over Brewers



WASHINGTON (AP)—

After all the heartache and close calls, all the early exits, maybe it makes sense that a 20-year-old kid who had never been to the postseason, Juan Soto, would help the Washington Nationals finally advance in the postseason.

And maybe, just maybe, it makes sense that it would be this particular edition of the Nationals, a club that went from 12 games under .500 in May to playoff participant, to demonstrate the necessary never-give-up fortitude when things looked bleak.

Soto delivered a bases-loaded single against Milwaukee closer Josh Hader that scored three runs with two outs in the eighth inning, thanks in part to an error by rookie outfielder Trent Grisham, and the Nationals came back to beat the Brewers 4-3 in the NL wild-card game Tuesday night.

"We started off horrible, as we all know, and we vowed that we wouldn't quit," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said, talking about the year as a whole but sounding like he could have meant this particular evening. "I told the boys, 'I promise you, stay with it, don't quit, this will turn around.' And it did. And here we are today."

The Nationals carry a nine-game winning streak into their best-of-five NL Division Series against the league-best Dodgers.

Game 1 is Thursday in Los Angeles, and some in the sellout crowd of 42,993 chanted "Beat LA! Beat LA!" as members of the Nationals lingered on the infield with family members.

The Nationals, who moved to Washington from Montreal before the 2005 season, had been 0-3 in winner-take-all postseason games — all NLDS Game 5 losses at home, by a grand total of four runs. Indeed, eight of their past nine playoff losses had been by one run apiece.

This time, it went the other way.

"We've been here a bunch of times. Never kind of broke through," said Ryan Zimmerman, the Nationals' first draft pick back in 2005, so someone who has been through all the disappointment. "Finally caught a break tonight."

It was Zimmerman's broken-bat bloop single as a pinch hitter that helped load the bases in the eighth off Hader, who took the loss.

Hader hit another pinch hitter, Michael A. Taylor, an initial ruling that stood up when the Brewers challenged, according to Major League Baseball, because there wasn't "clear and convincing evidence to overturn the call."



Milwaukee Brewers first baseman Eric Thames, right, reaches but is unable to make the tag on time as Washington Nationals' Brian Dozier singles in the fifth inning of a National League wild card baseball game, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019, in Washington.

card game between the Nationals and Milwaukee Brewers played on the stadium videoboard. The Dodgers wrapped up before the Nationals rallied to win 4-3.

The Dodgers took the season series from the Nationals, 4-3. The clubs split four games at Dodger Stadium, and Los Angeles won two of three in Washington.

Roberts said final roster spots were dependent on Turner's status.

"That helps for solidifying the positional players' side," he explained.

Turner took some swings against Tony Gonsolin in a simulated game. The third baseman has started just three games since Sept. 7. He initially had a sprained left ankle, then a sore back that kept him out of the final five games of the regular season.



Said Hader: "Definitely looked like it got the bat, but it also got his hand."

Hader, who had 37 saves this season, also walked Anthony Rendon, filling the bags and bringing Soto to the plate.

What was Soto thinking right then?

"Just get a base hit up the middle," he said, "and try to help to tie the game."

The runner-up for 2018 NL Rookie of the Year did more than that. Soto ripped a 96 mph fastball to right, and the ball skipped under Grisham's glove for an error. That allowed the go-ahead run to cross the plate and Soto to get to second, then turn for third.

Eventually, Soto was caught in a rundown to end the inning, but that didn't matter: He had turned a 3-1 deficit into a lead, and so he clapped his hands, then pounded his chest and high-fived third base coach Bob Henley, before shouting

"Let's go!" and its Spanish equivalent, "Vamonos!"

"The inning was an ugly inning," Brewers manager Craig Counsell said. "Crazy things happen."

Grisham, who has appeared in only 51 games in the majors, said the ball "came in with a little topspin, took a funny hop."

His teammates tried to console a tearful Grisham with a series of hugs in the clubhouse afterward.

"It's gonna sting," he said.

After Max Scherzer fell behind 3-0 by giving up homers to Yasmani Grandal in the first and Eric Thames in the second, Stephen Strasburg replaced him in the sixth and threw three scoreless innings to earn the win in the first relief appearance of his major league career, regular season or playoffs.

Daniel Hudson pitched the ninth for the save, getting Ben

Gamel to fly out to the warning track in center with a man on to end it.

Dodgers healing up ahead of NLDS

Nagging injuries to Justin Turner, Rich Hill and Joe Kelly have improved enough that all three will be available when the Los Angeles Dodgers open the National League Division Series.

Manager Dave Roberts didn't reveal his roster Tuesday for the best-of-five playoff that begins Thursday at Dodger Stadium. And he didn't announce a Game 1 starter, either.

But Roberts confirmed that two talented Dodgers rookies—catcher Will Smith and second baseman Gavin Lux—will be active. The manager also said the team will carry eight relievers.

Los Angeles worked out Thursday while the NL wild-

Angels' manager search will not be limited to Maddon

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—General manager Billy Eppler said the Los Angeles Angels' abrupt firing of manager Brad Ausmus wasn't all about Joe Maddon.

In his first comments on the move made after the club finished its worst season since 1999, Eppler flatly denied the Angels already know who will be their second new manager in two seasons.

The availability of Maddon, the longtime Angels employee who wrapped up his World Series-winning tenure with the Chicago Cubs last weekend, wasn't a factor in the Angels' move, according to Eppler.

"We have a hiring process to go through, so I think it's premature to say anything contrary to that," Eppler said. "We're going to collect names this afternoon, and particularly plan on sitting down with a number of candidates. I would not handicap it any other way at this moment in time."

Maddon spent 31 seasons working for the Halos, and he was their bench coach when they won their only World Series title in 2002. Maddon and Angels owner Arte Moreno have a cordial relationship, and Moreno is widely reported to be interested in a reunion—but Eppler wouldn't confirm any of

it Tuesday.

"We've got to get a comprehensive candidate list put together first and foremost," Eppler said. "So it's kind of hard to forecast timeline ... until we figure out exactly who we want."

Ausmus was fired Monday after the Angels finished 72-90 in their worst season since 1999. Eppler said the decision to fire Ausmus was reached by consensus Monday in meetings with Moreno and team President John Carpino, but the club had been contemplating the change "for a while."

The GM was vague about any mistakes or deficiencies in Ausmus' one season in charge, only saying the Angels' three front-office leaders "felt it was in the best interest of the organization to go in a different direction" after their dismal season.

In fact, Eppler lavished praise on Ausmus, the GM's hand-picked replacement for Mike Scioscia, for "his leadership, his consistency and his professionalism as our club navigated its most difficult season in many years."

Along with their terrible record, poor pitching and dozens of significant injuries, the Angels were rocked by the midseason death of pitcher Tyler Skaggs.

It's finals or bust for revamped Sixers



CAMDEN, N.J.— The Philadelphia 76ers would love to start where last season ended, the moment before Kawhi Leonard's missile of a corner jumper bounced one, two, three, four times in agonizing fashion before propelling the Toronto Raptors to a place they've never been and the 76ers into another off-season of upheaval.

But instead of tinkering with the remodeled house they made over three times in a year, GM Elton Brand took another sledgehammer to the building—not quite starting over but leaving the “good bones” in place, one could say.

Another incarnation will begin this season with championship expectations, big questions about the two headliners and uncertainty about who will take the lead late in games. Jimmy Butler, who was added early in the season last year, became the team's closer, but the 76ers failed to max him out in free agency and he departed to Miami.

So why are so many picking a team that's somewhat awkwardly built to make a serious run to the NBA Finals, especially when it—which gave the eventual champion Raptors their hardest test—isn't returning en masse?

The good bones are still growing, with a year of experience and necessary playoff heartbreak in their collective minds. As precarious as Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons are, it's hard to find cornerstones with more upside than these two, who had the closest view of Leonard's jumper sending them back to the lab for the summer. We saw Embiid's heartache in real time, trudging to the 76ers' locker room with unconsolable emotion, each tear matching the confetti streamers dropping north of

the border.

The questions are loud, unsullied by summer videos of Simmons taking long jumpers in pickup games or Embiid sounding like a man who's winning the never-ending battle with his body, losing 20 pounds in the offseason. The questions won't go away until they perform consistently. As Simmons said Monday at media day about his outside shooting, “If it's open, I'll take it,” a creed that will be put to test this season.

Defensively, the 76ers can be as long and pesky as any team in the East, able to give someone in Milwaukee who possesses a freakish body and skill set so many different looks.

They can wreak defensive havoc on the nights their jump shots aren't falling, or the space to drive isn't there in the half-court even if Simmons hasn't improved. And Simmons' end-to-end ability can manufacture scoring against moderate defenses, if not elite ones just yet.

It'll be on much-maligned coach Brett Brown to make this all work, and he could have an entire season with little to no roster alterations to tinker around with.

Embiid wants to turn that feeling of spring desolation into devastation for East opponents, subtly hinting at an MVP run should the 76ers get the No. 1 seed with “60 wins or more,” he believes.

For that to happen, he'll have to be available for more than the career-high 64 games he played last season—a year in which “load management” became the phrase en vogue when “Board Man” paced his body and was the last man standing in June.

The acquisition of Al Horford seems to indicate consistency in the 76ers' strategy from last season. The man



who defended Embiid best is now his ally, helping the 76ers up front while severely weakening the rival Boston Celtics with his departure.

The 76ers fell apart when Embiid was out, going 8-10 when he was inactive. A big reason for the 76ers targeting

the 33-year-old Horford was the understanding he would take on the responsibility of filling in when necessary.

“I've always wanted to be labeled as playing multiple positions, particularly the [power forward],” Horford told Yahoo Sports. “I've always wanted

the power forward, but I've learned the way the game is going, I have to play more five. Just not full time.

“I knew I was gonna have to play some five. That's my strength, to play multiple positions, to do different things.”

He represents so many

AP
In this April 15, 2019 file photo, Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid, left, hits Brooklyn Nets' Jarrett Allen, right, as he was going for the shot during the first half in Game 2 of a first round playoff series in Philadelphia.

things for the 76ers: a viable center when Embiid is out, a veteran who's been to the doorstep of the Finals and perhaps, most of all, some form of stability for the long term.

Last year's team was volatile and explosive, with players thrown together in the interim to take advantage of a LeBron James-less East.

Butler and JJ Redick are gone, Horford and Josh Richardson (via sign-and-trade with Miami for Butler) are in, and the entire starting five has long-term deals. Simmons signed for the rookie-scale max and Tobias Harris re-upped for \$180 million.

Money equals expectations, unlike last spring when the collective group seemed to be playing with house money.

Horford believes Harris wants to take a step forward as a dependable player late in games. Harris averaged 15.5 points last postseason but with a player of his talent, there's always the feeling that he has more to give. And who better to do it on this roster?

It's important to remember: It was Butler who tied it late in Game 7 against the Raptors with a fearless drive to the rim. Then, heartbreak struck.

“It lingered for a long time,” Harris said. “You can feel the sense of urgency, the hunger, for the guys who were here last year to get better. We have to have this transparency with this group.”

Here's transparency for the 76ers, illustrated by the money, the experience and the East: Anything but a finals berth is a bust.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Chris Paul is happy to be back where his professional career began.

Paul started his career in Oklahoma City with the Hornets when they relocated after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He was rookie of the year during the 2005-06 season, the first of two years he spent in Oklahoma City.

Now he's 34, a nine-time All-Star who came back to where it all started by way of a trade that sent Thunder cornerstone Russell Westbrook to the Houston Rockets in exchange.

Paul still has fond memories of the community that welcomed him to the NBA.

“The people here, the fans here, make this city what it

Chris Paul happy to return to Oklahoma City

is,” he said. “It's crazy. Our life comes full circle. Now I have two kids. To bring them out here—they came out here this weekend to see me, them and my wife — it's cool to give them perspective because it changes.”

Paul, who averaged 15.6 points and 8.2 assists last season, said he holds no resentment toward the Rockets for trading him. He still feels he has plenty left to offer, and he looks forward to working with coach Billy Donovan and being a major piece of the rebuilt Thunder.

“I'm excited,” he said. “It's funny because a lot of people

try to tell your truth, try to tell your story, say what you want and a lot of different kind of stuff. I'm excited about the opportunity, excited about our team and excited about Billy.”

Paul has a chance to mentor guards Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Dennis Schroder.

Gilgeous-Alexander averaged 10.8 points and 3.3 assists as a rookie last season. He joined the Thunder in the deal that sent All-Star forward Paul George to the Los Angeles Clippers. Schroder is the top returning scorer after averaging 15.5 points last season.

Donovan said all three could play together at times.

“I think that's what it comes down to,” Donovan said. “Multiple ball handlers down on the floor. You want to be able to incorporate all those guys so that they're flowing and playing together.”

Meanwhile, Gilgeous-Alexander knows media expectations are low this season after the Thunder traded Westbrook and George. He's not focused on that.

“Personally, I try not to worry about everything that the league or the media says in terms of things like tanking and things like that, expectations for us,” he said. “I think if we're focus on ourselves,

try to get better every day, and play to the best of our ability the best we can, it'll take us where it takes us. Whether it be the playoffs, not the playoffs, finals run, never know.”

Adams' numbers could jump this season. The 7-foot center averaged 13.9 points and 9.5 rebounds last season while shooting nearly 60% from the field. He heard his name in trade talks this summer, but he's focused on what he can do this season.

“It still affects you in some way. You know, because you're human, and you care,” he said. “If you care about something—obviously I care about the orga-

nization here. But again, we're here because we're trying to support the organization itself, and the organization needs to do well, right? So you have to keep that in mind. You're just here to help.”

Forward Andre Roberson, one of the league's best perimeter defensive players, is expected to play in the pre-season after missing the past 1 ½ seasons with a left knee injury. He said he learned a lot during his time away.

“A lot of ups and downs,” he said. “It's taught me a lot about myself, about my body, just about the game in general and just kind of the effect on my life. It's just been a great character builder and great to see the game from a different perspective.”

Unbeaten Pats, Chiefs remain Top 2 teams in poll



NEW YORK

(AP)—It's only four weeks into the NFL's regular season and it seems like Tom Brady and Patrick Mahomes are way ahead of the rest of the AFC.

The New England Patriots and the Kansas City Chiefs, who met in last season's AFC championship game, are both off to 4-0 starts.

The AFC's two remaining unbeaten teams also maintained their tight grip on top of the latest AP Pro 32 poll.

New England received 10 of the 12 first-place votes for 382 points in balloting Tuesday by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

Kansas City earned the remaining two first-place votes and 374 points after rallying late to beat the Detroit Lions 34-30.

"Patrick Mahomes didn't have his best stuff against the Lions, but the reigning MVP found his touch when it mattered most: on the game-winning drive," *Newsday's* Bob Glauber said.

The Patriots and Chiefs are the only AFC teams in the top nine in the poll. The surprising Buffalo Bills, who lost 16-10 to the Patriots last week, moved up a spot to round out the top 10.

The New Orleans Saints jumped four places to No. 3 after topping the Dallas Cowboys 12-10 on Sunday night. It was the Saints' second consecutive victory without quarterback Drew Brees, who is out several weeks after thumb surgery.

"One of this season's biggest surprises: The Saints' defense is carrying the offense," said Alex Marvez of Sirius XM.



Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Mecole Hardman (17) is tackled during the first half of an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019, in Detroit.

to fix the problem.

Hurney says Short did everything he could possibly do to try to play the past two games, "but we have made the decision that it is in the best long-term interest of KK and the team that he undergo surgery to fix his shoulder and focus on his rehab and get ready for next season."

The team signed defensive lineman Bryan Cox Jr from the practice squad to fill his roster spot.

In Los Angeles, the Chargers have promoted Stephen Anderson to their active roster and placed fellow tight end Sean Culkin on injured reserve.

Culkin tore his Achilles in Sunday's 30-10 win at Miami. With Hunter Henry (knee) and Virgil Green (groin) recovering from injuries, Anderson and Lance Kendricks are the only healthy tight ends on the roster. Fullback Derek Watt also has started to see some snaps at tight end.

Anderson joined the Chargers' practice squad after being waived from New England's practice squad. He played in 28 games for Houston in 2016 and '17, recording 36 receptions for 435 yards and two touchdowns.

The Chargers also announced Tuesday they had signed defensive backs Quenton Meeks, tight end Matt Sokol and defensive end Jeff Holland to the practice squad.

The Cowboys remained at No. 4 and will host the Green Bay Packers on Sunday.

"Offense will bounce back," Fox Sports' John Czarnecki said of Dallas, which was held to 254 yards against New Orleans.

The Packers fell three spots to No. 8 after losing to the Philadelphia Eagles.

The Los Angeles Rams slipped two spots to No. 5 after losing a 55-40 slugfest to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The Rams will open Week 5 at the Seattle Seahawks on Thursday night.

"It's hard to know what to think of this team," Char-ean Williams of Pro Football Talk said of the Rams. "They need (running back) Todd Gurley to be Todd Gurley for their offense to operate as we've seen it in the past. (Coach) Sean McVay isn't a miracle worker."

The Seahawks climbed four spots to No. 6 after dominating the winless Arizona Cardinals 27-10.

Despite losing quarterback Mitchell Trubisky to a left shoulder injury, the Chicago

Bears fended off the Minnesota Vikings 16-6 and rocketed seven spots to No. 7. The Bears will have Chase Daniel at QB when they face the Oakland Raiders in London before their bye week.

"When you allow an average of only 11 points per game, it may not matter much whether it's Mitch Trubisky or Chase Daniel under center," said Ira Kaufman of Fox 13 in Tampa, Florida.

The San Francisco 49ers, the NFC's only unbeaten team, remained at No. 9 af-

ter their bye week. The 49ers will close Week 5 when they host the Cleveland Browns on Monday night.

Meanwhile, the Panthers two-time Pro Bowl defensive lineman Kawann Short will miss the remainder of the season after being placed on injured reserve with a partially torn rotator cuff.

Short injured the shoulder in Week 2 against Tampa Bay and has missed the past two games.

Panthers general manager Marty Hurney says in a release Short will need surgery

NEW YORK—The U.S. Soccer Federation has filed a motion opposing the U.S. women's national team's request to certify the players' lawsuit seeking equitable pay as a class action.

The women filed their motion for class certification on Sept. 11, asking the court to include in the lawsuit all players called up to the national team, in addition to those originally named. U.S. Soccer filed its response to the request on Monday night.

Twenty-eight players, including Alex Morgan and Megan Rapinoe, sued U.S. Soccer in March alleging institutionalized gender discrimination that includes inequitable compensation compared to players on the men's national team.

U.S. Soccer maintains that compensation for each team is the result of separate collective bargaining agreements, and that the pay structures are different as a result. Men's

US Soccer opposes USWNT request for class certification

team players are paid largely by appearance and performance, while the contract for the women's team includes provisions for health care and other benefits, as well as salaries in the National Women's Soccer League.

The federation argued in its motion Monday that four players for the U.S. team — Morgan, Rapinoe, Carli Lloyd and Becky Sauerbrunn—were each paid more than the highest paid player on the men's national team in four years over the period between 2014-2019. The four earned more even when NWSL salaries were not included, the motion said.

U.S. Soccer maintains that because those players made more, they lack the standing to represent a class.

"Pay should be based on performance, not gender. USSF tries to spin the undeniable fact that if the men

players won their games, they would be paid considerably more than the women are now," said Molly Levinson, a spokeswoman for the players concerning the lawsuit. "This is a tired argument from USSF that women players must work twice as hard and win every time men lose in order to be paid and have the same working conditions as the men."

"It runs counter to every American principle of equality, won't stop this case from going forward, and doesn't stand a chance in a trial."

The motion says the four players made more in 2015 and then from 2017-2019 more than the highest-paid men's player in each of those years.

The men's team did not make the field for the 2018 World Cup in Russia and had

fewer matches and therefore fewer call-ups and training camps from 2017-18. The team has also transitioned to new coach Gregg Berhalter, who was hired last December.

The women's team won this year's World Cup in France and had additional games leading up to the event, including qualification matches. The women also won the World Cup in 2015. The team also played in victory tour matches following those World Cup titles.

The lawsuit accused the federation of paying players on the women's team less than similarly situated male national team players on a per game basis.

Following a failed attempt to mediate the matter, a May 5 trial date was set in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles.



CONCACAF in 2012.

The indictment said he obtained an "expensive painting from an art gallery in New York" as a bribe while working for Jeffrey Webb, then CONCACAF's leader and a FIFA vice president. Webb, a banker from the Cayman Islands, pleaded guilty to various financial crimes and is awaiting sentence.

FIFA said its ethics judges charged Sanz with bribery only during his 2012-15 work with CONCACAF. He was found guilty and fined 100,000 Swiss francs (\$100,000).

In 2014, the Colombia-born official took a leave of absence from CONCACAF, which also covers Central America and the Caribbean, while being treated for leukemia.

Sanz was suspended by FIFA's ethics committee when the sprawling American investigation was unsealed in May 2015, and he was fired by CONCACAF weeks later.

McDonald's hammers Hawaiian Rock

By **ROSELYN B. MONROY**
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REPORTER



McDonald's clobbered Hawaiian Rock, 87-45, in the second game in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

McDonald's went straight for the jugular in the first quarter to earn the lopsided victory. The first period ended with McDonald's sitting comfortably ahead, 23-5, and the winning team kept pouncing on Hawaiian Rock in the second and third frames before bringing down the hammer in the fourth.

Jaymark De Guzman scored 7 points in the first quarter, as his production alone was

enough to outgun the hapless Hawaiian Rock. Sean Macaranas chipped in 6 points, making his baskets in streak, while five other McDonald's players made it to the board for the squad's strong start.

While scoring was easy for McDonald's right in the opening quarter, Hawaiian Rock struggled with its offense after drilling only two field goals—one each from Allan David and Benjie Ayeras. Jampes Reyes was the other scorer for Hawaiian Rock, as he split his free throws for the squad's first point in the match.

Hawaiian Rock still could not get its offense going in the next two periods, as it logged only 11 and 7 points in the second and third periods. In contrast, McDonald's made all kinds of shots and combined for 47 markers in that stretch for a whopping 70-23 advance

tage going into the final canto.

With the win secured, McDonald's allowed Hawaiian Rock to pick up garbage points in the fourth frame and the latter nearly marched its total production in the first three periods after recording

22 points.

De Guzman led McDonald's rout of Hawaiian Rock after posting 18 points, while Justine Achas, Macaranas, Jun Fidelino, and T.J. Ladra also contributed twin digits, registering 16, 12, 11, and 10

points, respectively. Bobby Cruz was the lone double-figure scorer for Hawaiian Rock after tallying 18 markers.

McDonald's 87—De Guzman 18, J. Achas 16, Macaranas 12, Fidelino 11, Ladra

10, Mettao 8, C. Achas 6, Mc. Achas 2, Misaro 2.

Hawaiian Rock 45—Cruz 18, Ayeras 8, Bush 5, Reyes 4, David 4, Pulga 4, Canedo 3, Camacho 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-5, 48-16, 70-23, 87-45



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

McDonald's Jun Fidelino, second right, is fouled by Hawaiian Rock's Bobby Cruz during the third quarter of their game in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

DOCOMO

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away further, 65-38, going into the final quarter.

Despite the big lead, Docomo was still at it and exploded for 30 points to finish off Max's Restaurant.

Diaz nearly matched their opponent's total output, as he tallied 43 points.

IT&E Dark 87, Pardz Ballers 77

IT&E Dark secured a play-off berth after beating Pardz Ballers last Friday.

IT&E Dark holds a 5-5 record for seventh place in the team standings and has one more game left in the regular season. Pardz, despite the loss, is also in the playoffs, as it occupies the No. 4 spot in the rankings after finishing the elimination round with a 7-4 card.

Ivan Devero showed the way for IT&E Dark after posting 26 points, while Dan Mateo, Ferrick Aguon, Michael Cabanas also finished in twin digits, contributing 20, 16, and 13 markers, respectively.

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BOYS U18 TanHoldings 1, MP United 0

TanHoldings also came out victorious in the curtain-raiser in the boys U18 division last Friday.

Taka Borja recorded the lone goal in the match after hitting his target in the 58th minute.

TanHoldings handed MP United its first loss in three games while getting its second victory after three matches, too. TanHoldings had its first victory over Matansa before drawing Kanoa in Week 2 of the

IT&E Dark controlled the game in the first half, leading by as much as 16 points, 51-35. It then lost its double-digit lead in the third period, as Pardz moved within 5, 62-67. However, IT&E Dark regained its composure in the fourth quarter with Devero and Mateo combining for 15 points.

Tuesday's Game

Docomo Pacific 96—Diaz 43, Sanciango 9, Mediola 9, Sablan 8, Lukas 8, Sanchez 7, Alvarez 4, Manibusan 4, Deleon Guerrero 4.

Max's Restaurant 50—Lerio 16, Paynor 9, Herrero 8, Tibayan 6, Salalila 5, Manan-sala 4, Flores 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-18, 40-26, 65-38, 96-50.

Friday's Game

IT&E Dark 89—Devero 26, Mateo 20, Aguon 16, Cabanas 13, Dayrit 9, Garcia 3, Peredo 2.

Pardz Ballers 77—Jose 24, Ritual 14, Torres 13, Bernardo 10, Galulu 6, Rono 6, Hipolito 3.

Scoring by quarters: 29-21, 51-35, 67-62, 89-77.

league. MP United also won versus Matansa and prevailed over Kanoa.

Kanoa 3, Matansa 1

Kanoa got its first victory this season after outclassing Matansa in the second game last weekend.

Kanoa delivered all three goals in the first half with Ian Karl Maniago posting back-to-back goals (25th and 26th minute). Jaydee Jose logged the other goal for Kanoa two minutes before the 40-minute first half ended.

Matansa, on the other hand, was the first to score in the game, courtesy of Razeff Altamirano's goal in the 12th minute.

Hafa Adai 5K Run this Saturday



The Pacific Islands Club will be holding the 2019 Hafa Adai 5K

Fun Run this Saturday and interested participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

Registration fee is \$10 and

free T-shirts will be given to the first 1,000 participants of the race, which was postponed for over a month due to inclement weather. The event was originally set for Aug. 10.

The race will start and end at PIC Saipan in San Antonio and runners will be heading north along Beach Road

with the turnaround point near the Triple J Wholesale. Runners should be prepared to be blasted with different colors at every kilometer of the course.

Before the race, which will kick off at 7:30am, participants can join a zumba session at 6:30am. Participants

can also win over \$5,000 worth in prizes.

Proceeds from the annual event will go to Empty Vessel Ministry for the organization's community outreach program.

Registration can be made at the lobby of PIC Saipan. For additional inquiries, call 237-5147 or email seamanager@picsaipan.com. (Kimberly A. Bautista)

CUKI

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with the turnout. Around 30 children signed up for Trench Tech's BJJ classes.

"It was a bit overwhelming at first because of the sheer numbers of parents and kids flocking in at one time, but for the most part my team and I did a great job of signing them in and sizing them up with Gis and settling them all on the mats," the Trench Tech co-founder said.

Alvarez said the biggest change made to having a BJJ class to children was the need to alter his usual teaching strategies and cater a lot more towards the "entry level and child based" movements and drills.

"We turned drills more into like 'games,' which made it fun, but also had a technical purpose to it as well. For example, we taught the children a few movements and named them after animals, like the bear walk, the crab walk, the gorilla, and the shrimp, which



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trench Tech Brazilian Jiu-jitsu instructors pose with their students after a session last week at the Trench Tech Gym in Garapan.

made it enjoyable for them. Kids at this age need to learn how to move efficiently and effectively on the ground and these are some ways we can show them how," the black belt BJJ practitioner said.

Trench Tech's children's

BJJ classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and now a part of the gym's regular schedule. Currently, all children age 5 to 12 are taught together, but Alvarez hopes to build the program and even-

ually separate them by ages; 4-7, 8-12, and 13-15.

BJJ is a grappling-based martial art with an ultimate goal of bringing your opponent to the ground, control them by proper positioning, and finish with a submission.



Soto lifts Nats
to comeback win
over Brewers

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Saipan Tribune Sports

It's finals or bust
for revamped
Sixers

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa, TanHoldings top foes



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa Football Club's Rigel Devey, right, leaps to deflect the ball during their co-ed U12 division game against MP United FC in the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club and TanHoldings Football Club earned contrasting wins in the co-ed U12 division game in the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Kanoa recovered from a goal-less first half to nip MP United, 3-2, while TanHoldings hammered Shirley's FC, 15-3.

Tyler Omelau drilled the game-winner for Kanoa after scoring in the eighth minute of extra time. Rigel Devey and Rooney Gil registered the two other goals for Kanoa with the latter finding the back of the net in the 39th minute to knot the count, 1-all.

Sejun Kim, earlier in the 16th minute, put MP United on the board for the squad's shaky lead at halftime. MP United eventually lost the driver's seat, as after Gil forced the deadlock, Devey scored in the 53rd minute to give Kanoa the upper hand, 2-1.

The MP United-Kanoa game then was tied anew when Xavier Lee delivered for the former in the 60th minute. The co-ed U12 match is played in two 30-minute halves, but teams are given extra time for delays and that's what Kanoa needed to pull off a close win, as Omelau scored in the 68th minute.

In the other game in the division, TanHoldings more than made up for the early goal it yielded to Shirley's to notch the easy win.

Jurvin Bisek's goal in the fourth minute allowed Shirley's to tie the match, but that was it for the team, as TanHoldings dominated the remainder of the game.

Mark Ryan Costales and

Jerald Dalawampu fired four goals apiece in TanHoldings' demolition of Shirley's, while Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez chipped in three. Monico Claridades, Semante Jimenez, and Jared Coby Vilagomez had one goal apiece for TanHoldings, which was

upped by 5 after the first half, 6-1, and went for the kill in the second, scoring nine more goals.

Shirley's countered with two goals in the second half, courtesy of Jayvin Bisek's brace.

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Cuki: BJJ teaches children life skills

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's new offering—the Brazilian Jiu-jitsu classes exclusively for children—aims to help participants build major life skills in a fun and enjoyable setting.

“Children will develop discipline, respect, honor, leadership and self-confidence, and make lifelong friends. Our

program ensures that your child is trained to be ‘bully-proof’ and ready to face life's challenges,” said BJJ professor Cuki Alvarez, who leads the classes for children in the 5 to 12 age group.

Alvarez and company conducted the class' first session last Thursday and they were happy and overwhelmed

See CUKI on Page 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trench Tech Brazilian Jiu-jitsu practitioners conduct a BJJ lesson for children last week at the Trench Tech Gym in Garapan.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Docomo Pacific's Tony Diaz, second right, drives baseline against Max's Restaurant defenders during the second quarter of their game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Tuesday at the Civic Center Court.

Docomo stays in playoff contention

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER



Docomo Pacific remained in the playoff race in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League following a 96-50 rout of Max's Restaurant last Tuesday at the Civic Center Court.

Docomo improved its record to 3-6 with two games left in its schedule in the round-robin regular season. It's at No. 9 spot in the team standings, just one win behind No. 8 IT&E Light (4-6). Only the Top 8 teams will advance to the playoff round.

Max's Restaurant will miss the cut, as the loss to Docomo Pacific dropped the former to a

2-8 slate for the No. 10 spot in the rankings. Max's joins Gilas Batang (1-8) and Light & Salt (0-9) to an early vacation.

Docomo managed to cruise past Max's Restaurant despite facing a 7-point deficit after the first quarter, 11-8. Docomo worked its way back into the game in the second period after having a 29-8 scoring surge. Tony Diaz led the way for Docomo's second-canto assault after firing 16 markers for their 40-26 halftime advantage.

After the break, Diaz continued to hit multiple baskets and also drew help from Robert Sanciangco, Conrad Sablan, and Shane Deleon Guerrero, as Docomo pulled

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